

## Tunis hopeful of Arab summit

DOHA (R) — Tunisian Foreign Minister Hedi Mahrouk said Sunday he believed contacts made among Arab leaders at last week's Islamic meeting in Kuwait had created a new climate for the convening of the long-delayed Arab summit. "In the past, meetings among Arab leaders in Kuwait, I believe there are now new and better prospects for holding a summit," Mr. Mahrouk said. The minister, who arrived on Friday from Kuwait, said he was personally optimistic, adding that the current Arab situation required the holding of a summit. He regretted Iran's boycott of the 46-member Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) summit and said had Tehran attended, it could have made its point of view more clearly. On Lebanon, Mr. Mahrouk said he was not optimistic for an end to fighting between Amal militiamen and Palestinians for control of refugee camps in Beirut and the south. "This is due to the complex situation in Lebanon and I do not personally blame any party," Mr. Mahrouk said.

# Jordan Times

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## Swareddahab arrives in Amman

AMMAN (Petra) — The former head of the military council in Sudan, Field Marshal Abdul Rahman Swareddahab and his wife arrived in Amman Sunday evening on a visit to Jordan upon an invitation of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan. The Sudanese guests were met at the airport by Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief General Sharif Zaid bin Shaker, Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs Sami Jodeh, the secretary general of the Foreign Ministry, the undersecretary of the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs and Sudan's ambassador to Jordan. In a statement upon arrival Marshal Swareddahab said his visit was for conveying to His Majesty King Hussein, Prince Hassan and the Jordanian people Sudan's appreciation and gratitude for assistance sent to them during their ordeal caused by famine and drought. He said Jordanian-Sudanese relations were very strong and both countries maintained close cooperation. Marshal Swareddahab is chairman of the board of trustees of Sudan's Open University. He will hold talks at the University of Jordan for bolstering bilateral relations and will also tour archaeological sites in the Kingdom.

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## Crown Prince inspects army units

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan on Sunday made a tour of army units of the Third Royal Armoured Division and inspected training fields, lecture halls and was briefed on the division's activities and training programmes. Prince Hassan met with officers and troops and talked to them about their training. He was accompanied on the tour by the division's commander and senior army officers.

## Israelis question Palestinian editor

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — Israeli police arrested Palestinian magazine editor Ibrahim Kareem on Sunday on charges of anti-Israeli incitement, police said. He was the second Palestinian editor to be summoned by police in the past two weeks for publishing comments supporting the PLO. Mr. Kareem, editor of Al Awdeh weekly, told Reuters he was questioned about an editorial published 11 months ago in favour of the PLO and Palestinian self-determination. He was released on bail after an hour.

## Israel names new chief of staff

TEL AVIV (AP) — Major General Dan Shomron, who led Israel's airborne raid to free hijacked passengers from Entebbe, was appointed Sunday as the new military chief of staff, a cabinet communiqué said. Gen. Shomron, who assumes his post on April 19, will take over from Lt. Gen. Moshe Levy who has held the job for the past four years. The appointment, proposed by Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin and approved unanimously by the cabinet, was expected to cause a shake-up in the senior command echelons of the Israeli army.

## Muslims clash with Melilla police

MELILLA (R) — Police arrested 27 Muslims, including community leaders, in Spain's North African enclave of Melilla on Sunday after a night of street violence in which six policemen were hurt. Police said they were looking for several more people accused of inciting the disturbances. Muslim youths set fire to six cars and hurled stones and petrol bombs at police Saturday night after a rally to protest at the expulsion of a relative of the community's leader, Aomar Mohammed Dudu.

## 4 killed in Kabul explosion

KABUL (R) — A powerful car bomb blew up beside the Indian embassy in central Kabul on Sunday, killing four people including two children, official Kabul Radio reported. The radio, monitored in Islamabad, said Afghan Communist Party leader Najib later visited the embassy accompanied by interim President Haji Mohammad Tasmakani and Foreign Minister Abdul Wakil. Mr. Najib blamed the incident on what he called enemies of Afghanistan and India who wanted to damage relations between the two countries, the radio reported.

# King congratulates Iraq on its latest warfront victories

## Iraqis celebrate recapture of Fish Lake after routing invading Iranian forces

Combined agency dispatches

HIS MAJESTY King Hussein on Sunday congratulated Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, the Iraqi armed forces and people for their victory against invading Iranians on the southern front near Basra, where Iraqi forces recaptured territory taken by the Iranians in an offensive launched last month.

The Jordan News Agency, Petra, said the King conveyed the congratulations to President Hussein in a telephone conversation he had with the Iraqi leader Sunday evening. The Iraqi leader assured His Majesty of the strong and firm position of the Iraqi armed forces on the warfront and briefed him on the victory they achieved by routing out Iranians from occupied territory, Petra said.

## Syria and Iran said involved in efforts to determine Waite's fate

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Backstage negotiations involving Syria, Iraq and militia leaderships in Lebanon were reported under way Sunday to determine the fate of Anglican church hostage negotiator Terry Waite.

"These hush-hush talks are in high gear," said a senior militia official. "The parties concerned are bunning the wires trying to ensure Mr. Waite's safety. Plenty of Syrian and Iranian emissaries are shuttling back and forth."

"The lack of direct word from Mr. Waite since his disappearance two weeks ago has alarmed all sides concerned and every effort is being made to find out about him," said the official, who spoke to AP on condition of anonymity.

Mr. Waite, the personal emissary of Archbishop of Canterbury Robert Runcie, flew to Beirut Jan. 12 on his fifth trip to Lebanon to win freedom for American and other foreign hostages.

He has not been heard or seen since he left the Riviera Hotel in west Beirut on Jan. 20, presumably to negotiate with Islamic Jihad, a pro-Iranian Shi'ite faction that holds two Americans.

Lebanese socialist leader Walid Junblatt, whose militia had been in charge of Mr. Waite's security before his disappearance, offered himself as a hostage Saturday to replace Mr. Waite if reports of his abduction were true.

But the Church of England said its envoy had left a message forbidding any rescue mission, ransom payment or substitution of hostages if he were kidnapped.

Church spokeswoman Eve Keatley said the statement from Archbishop Runcie about Mr. Waite's message was issued after London's Sunday Times reported that "Beirut terrorists" were demanding a ransom of \$4 million for Mr. Waite's safe release.

Archbishop Runcie also said on Sunday that he had "no fresh news" about Mr. Waite. "I have had some contact yesterday (Saturday), indirectly. I am very anxious about where he is," he said.

At least three Beirut radio stations quoted Mr. Junblatt as saying he made the offer to become a hostage to a political party he did not name.

"I told them do not embarrass me. Take me hostage if you want. But I want to take delivery of Terry Waite," Mr. Junblatt was quoted as saying.

In Bonn, sources quoted by Reuters said Chancellor Helmut Kohl had received letters from two kidnapped West Germans in Lebanon who are apparently being held as hostages for a hijack suspect arrested last month in Frankfurt.

The sources gave no details about the contents of the letters but said the two men, Rudolf Cordes and Alfred Schmidt, had also written to their families in West Germany.

The letters were delivered by an unidentified middleman, the sources said.

The news magazine Spiegel said on Saturday that the two sent letters to Dr. Kohl and their families through an Arab mediator.

## Peres and Shamir clash over peace conference

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres clashed at a cabinet meeting Sunday over whether Israel should attend an international Middle East peace conference, cabinet sources said.

Mr. Peres said Israel should not reject the proposal outright, arguing it would help improve relations with Arab states, which have called for such a conference.

Mr. Shamir countered that accepting an international forum would put Israel under pressure to make "concessions," the sources said.

The cabinet took no decision on the issue, which has caused sharp exchanges between Mr. Shamir's right-wing Likud bloc and Mr. Peres' Labour Party, uneasily joined in a government of "national unity."

The Arab states want all permanent members of the U.N. Security Council and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) to take part in an international peace conference.

The Israeli cabinet sources, quoted by Reuters, said Mr. Peres set out the following 10 conditions for Israeli attendance at a conference:

- The conference must be of short duration.
- It cannot impose a solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict.
- It cannot cancel any agreement reached by Israeli and Arab negotiators.
- Direct Israeli-Arab negotiations must also take place without involvement of the international conference.
- Bilateral negotiating teams will be set up to conduct direct talks on separate issues in a peace settlement.
- Progress in negotiations on any one team will not be conditional on progress by other teams on other issues.
- Negotiations must be based on acceptance of U.N. Resolutions 242 and 338.
- Procedures and participants in an international conference must be agreed ahead of time.
- The Soviet Union must change its policy restricting Jewish emigration to take part in the conference.
- The Soviet Union must renew diplomatic ties it broke with Israel during the 1967 Middle East war before it can take part in the conference.

U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz has said that an international conference on the Middle East could be useful, but only as a prelude to direct negotiations between Israel and its Arab neighbors.

Speaking to reporters here via satellite from Washington last Thursday, Mr. Shultz said that the Soviet Union's lack of diplomatic relations with Israel and poor record on emigration disqualified it from taking part in such talks.

## MEA halts flights to and from Beirut

BEIRUT (AP) — Middle East Airlines (MEA), Lebanon's national carrier, suspended its flight to and from Beirut international airport Sunday and the country's only public airport facility was closed down indefinitely.

MEA President Salim Salam said the move followed a decision by foreign insurance companies to cancel insurance on MEA passengers and crews, because of insecurity at the airport.

But at least one radio station in west Beirut said the decision was taken after the "Lebanese Forces," the country's main rightist militia, demanded the closure of the airport until an airport in the Christian enclave north of Beirut is allowed to open and MEA agrees to operate out of it.

An official at Beirut airport, speaking on condition he would not be identified, said the facility was shut down at the advice of Lebanon's civil aviation authorities "to avoid any risk involving other carriers." He would not elaborate.

He said two planes scheduled to land at the airport Sunday morning were diverted to nearby airports after MEA's decision.

Only East European airlines and the Syrian Arab Airways have been flying to Beirut.

# Bomb explodes aboard Israeli bus; 9 injured

## Masked men spray Gaza girls with acid

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — A bomb exploded Sunday morning on an Israeli bus wounding nine people and many Arabs, were detained by Israeli police for questioning, reports said.

In the occupied Gaza Strip, 12 Palestinian girls were injured when several masked men entered their school and sprayed them with acid.

In another incident in Gaza, an Israeli, believed to be a settler, shot and wounded a Palestinian boy in a shoot-and-run attack.

According to Israeli police, the bomb explosion took place aboard a bus plying between Haifa and Jerusalem at 10 a.m.

A spokesman said the explosion occurred when the bus was about mid-way between Haifa and Tel Aviv.

An officer at Haifa police said police had rounded up "many people" for questioning, in Haifa and in the city of Hadera near the site of the blast. The officer said all the passengers were interviewed but none were detained.

"As I was driving my Renault, I suddenly heard an explosion, the bus' rear window flew off... and passengers immediately started screaming. I saw one wounded taken away on a stretcher, and one was treated on the spot," an eyewitness, told Israeli army radio.

In Tunis, the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) claimed to have placed the bomb.

The Palestinian news agency WAFA said the claim was made in a communiqué issued by the general command of Palestinian forces and dated in occupied Palestine.

It said the action was carried out by a special unit named after "the Palestinian martyr Mother Abu Ghazala" and claimed the target was a military bus, with "many enemy soldiers" being wounded.

The communiqué said the bomb was placed in the bus when it was stopped in at a "military station" in Haifa.

Responsibility for bombing the bus also was claimed by the Damascus-based Palestinian group "Fateh Uprising" headed by Colonel Saeed Mousa Marara.

(Continued on page 3)

# Mubarak accuses Assad of trying to sabotage OIC summit

CAIRO (Agencies) — President Hosni Mubarak accused Syrian leader Hafez Al Assad on Sunday of trying to sabotage last week's Islamic summit in Kuwait by attacking Egypt for its 1979 separate peace treaty with Israel.

"Hafez attacked Egypt mainly to force me to reply and drag the conference into a side issue and make it collapse," Mr. Mubarak said in a televised speech marking national police day.

He said his brief meeting with Mr. Assad in Kuwait before entering the conference of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) summit last was "a mere coincidence," witnessed by Sheikh Zayed Ibn Sultan Al Nahayan, the United Arab Emirates president.

"I shook hands with Hafez and he surprised me by saying 'I will fight you inside,'" Mr. Mubarak reported, departing from his prepared text.

"I answered saying 'You fight by night only but I can fight day and night in all circumstances'."

Mr. Mubarak said he suggested meeting Mr. Assad in Damascus, Cairo or any other Arab capital to settle their differences.

"But Assad asked me first to cancel the peace treaty and Camp David accords as a condition for a meeting. I explained clearly this cannot happen as it involves the destiny of the Egyptian people."

Syria has been one of Egypt's strongest critics of its treaty with Israel, and has along with the 22-member Arab League broken off diplomatic relations with it as a result. Only Jordan and Djibouti have since restored ties with Egypt.

In a disbelieving tone, Mr. Mubarak told an applauding audience Mr. Assad let it be known to him that "We and the Arabs will stand behind you" should Egypt sever ties with Israel, and should the latter re-occupy Sinai.

"Israel occupied the Sinai Peninsula after the 1967 war until a hand-over to Egypt starting 1980."

Speaking to an audience of ministers, police officers and other officials at the police academy on Sunday, Mr. Mubarak also condemned Libya and Syria for "always disrupting" conferences that included Arab countries.

Mr. Mubarak said he has always been careful to avoid using harsh words against Mr. Assad. "I don't say anything against him or against his policy."

Mr. Mubarak revealed that an Egyptian envoy shuttled between Damascus and Cairo last year, carrying written messages between the two heads of state. He indicated the effort had failed because "the last thing he (Mr. Assad) said was we should cancel all our accords and obligations."

Mr. Mubarak said he tried to negotiate with Mr. Assad, through an envoy, a change in Syria's agenda for the Islamic summit which was to include a condemnation of Egypt. "But, we went with enough ammunition to the conference," he said and referred to secret meetings between Syria and Israeli officials.

A leading editor of a Cairo magazine said last week that Rifat Assad, brother of the president, met secretly some time after Israel's 1982 invasion of Lebanon with the then Israeli defence minister, Ariel Sharon.

(Continued on page 3)

# 3 killed in resumed 'camps war'

BEIRUT (R) — Palestinian fighters and their Lebanese militia foes resumed tank and artillery battles at two refugee camps overnight, killing at least three people and injuring 35 others, including eight children.

The injuries prompted one Palestinian group on Sunday to charge the Shi'ite Amal militia with a "children's massacre."

Amal sources rejected the accusation, saying seven civilians were injured when Palestinians, located in mountains southeast of the city, pumped artillery shells into Shi'ite suburbs around Shadla and Bourj Al Barajneh camps.

Palestinian sources said three refugees died and 28 others were hurt, including eight children, when Amal's T-54 tanks pounded the two camps with their cannon.

The Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP) issued a statement in the capital, accusing Amal of committing a "children's massacre" by targeting shelters in which refugees hide from Amal bombardments.

Amal sources contended that the mountain shelling provoked the latest flare-up, and that eight injuries did not constitute a massacre.

For three successive days, sporadic fighting has erupted around the camps despite an Amal declaration that it would lift its siege once fighters loyal to Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat withdrew from a disrupted South Lebanese village.

On Thursday, 500 well-armed fighters of Mr. Arafat's mainstream Fateh organisation pulled back from Maghdousheh, a village perched on a strategic ridge overlooking Sidon port.

Despite the withdrawal, witnesses say Amal militiamen have continued to man positions around the refugee camps.

At least 750 people are estimated to have been killed in four months of Amal-Palestinian fighting over control of five camps in Beirut and the south.

About 400,000 Palestinians are believed to be still living in Lebanon, and Amal and Syria have said Mr. Arafat prompted the fighting to expand his military presence here.

# Israel rejects demand to free Arab prisoners

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israel on Sunday rejected a demand by a Lebanese underground group that Israel should free hundreds of jailed Palestinians in exchange for American hostages in Lebanon.

The Islamic Jihad for the Liberation of Palestine has threatened to execute the hostages within a week unless Israel releases the prisoners.

Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin said the United States had not approached Israel over the demand but it was inconceivable that Israel would agree to exchange convicted prisoners for Western hostages.

"It is inconceivable... (that we would) arrest, put on trial and imprison thousands of guerrillas to serve as an international bank reserve that one draws on (to free) hostages," Mr. Rabin said on army radio.

The guerrilla group has claimed responsibility for abducting four professors from Beirut University College — three Americans and an Indian national — last week.

It threatened late Saturday night to kill the three Americans and the Indian unless Israel freed 400 Arab prisoners and flew them to Syria on a Red Cross plane within one week.

The threat came in a handwritten note signed by Islamic Jihad for the Liberation of Palestine. It was delivered to a Western news agency and a Beirut newspaper along with photos of two American captives, who were among four professors kidnapped at Beirut University College.

The pictures showed Jesse Turner, 39, of Boise, Idaho, a visiting professor of mathematics and computer science; and Alan Steen, 47, a native of Boston, a communications instructor. They were kidnapped Jan. 24

# Shultz hints at military action against kidnappers

WASHINGTON (R) — U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz described Beirut as "a plague-infested place from the middle ages" and said the United States should be prepared to use military force against hostage-takers.

"I think that we have to be prepared to use military force when we have a clear target and know precisely what we're doing," Mr. Shultz said in a published interview.

He told U.S. News and World Report magazine that the circumstances surrounding secret U.S. arms sales to Iran may have reinforced the idea that kidnapping Americans is an effective way to strike out at the United States.

"It seems as though the structure of the arms deliveries and the connection with the hostages may have gotten pretty tightly connected, in which case the perception of the Iranians — whatever the perception in this country was — would be that hostages are a thing of value," Mr. Shultz said.

He said the United States should make it clear to kidnappers that they must pay for taking Americans hostage.

"If we can figure out how to raise the cost to the terrorists, we will," he said.

Mr. Shultz suggested negotiations to free American hostages held in Lebanon were complicated by the publicity the captives have received.

"The more you make out of hostages, the more value is placed on them by the hostage-takers," he said.

In his comments about using military force, Mr. Shultz said special effort should be made to avoid harming the innocent.

"On the other hand, if you take a situation like Beirut now, it is chaotic it's sort of like a plague-infested place from the middle ages, and it needs to be quarantined."

# Immediate Soviet pullout is possible, Najib says

NEW DELHI (R) — The Soviet Union will withdraw all its troops from Afghanistan the moment rebels stop receiving foreign arms, Afghan leader Najib said in an interview published on Sunday.

The Hindustan Times newspaper also quoted Mr. Najib as saying that King Zahir Shah, who fled to exile in Rome after being deposed in 1973, was welcome to return to Afghanistan and could play a role in the administration.

"Anyone who works for an independent, neutral, democratic and a non-aligned Afghanistan was welcome... his status in the new set-up in Afghanistan would be determined by the role he plays in the process," Mr. Najib said.

Mr. Najib said a Soviet troop withdrawal would need guarantees that foreign arms aid would not be resumed after the pullout.

The newspaper quoted him as saying Soviet troops would leave Afghanistan immediately if foreign arms aid to the rebels was stopped.

After a pause, it said, he qualified the remark by saying there would have to be credible guarantees that the assistance would not be resumed.

Mr. Najib did not give details of the foreign arms aid or the kind of guarantees he was seeking.

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# Israel approved \$50m Iran weapons sale, report says

NEW YORK (R) — An Israeli who arranged a \$50-million sale of Israeli-made arms to Iran said the deal was made two months before the first U.S. request for help from Israel in approaching Tehran, the New York Times said Sunday.

Citing a Tel Aviv interview with Israeli businessman Yaacov Nimrodi, the newspaper said the Israelis pursued their own arms sale to Iran because they saw an opportunity to re-establish contacts with high-level Iranian officials.

Nimrodi also said the Israeli deal was spurred on when their Iranian contact promised to give Israel a Soviet-made T-72 tank captured from Iraq in the Gulf war, according to the newspaper. The report called the T-72 "the most advanced tank in the Soviet arsenal."

However, Nimrodi was quoted as saying that the deal fell through at the last moment when the Iranians decided they needed U.S.-made Tow anti-tank missiles more than the mortar shells they had arranged to buy from Israel.

Nimrodi was quoted as saying the \$50-million sale of non-U.S. weapons was approved by Israel's Defence Ministry in February 1965 and involved arms dealer Adnan Khushoggi and middleman Manusher Gorbanifar.

In May 1965, the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) first proposed making overtures to Iranian leaders interested in contacts with the West.

The newspaper report adds detail to a U.S. Senate Intelligence Committee report on a probe of the Iran arms crisis, in which U.S.

arms were sold to Tehran and some of the proceeds were funnelled to Nicaraguan contra rebels.

The Senate report, released Thursday, said Israel originally proposed the arms sales to Iran and then influenced U.S. officials several times not to stop them. The report rejected President Reagan's claim that the U.S. arms were sold to Iran primarily to improve relations and not to buy freedom for American hostages in Lebanon.

Intelligence documents showed Israel shipped non-U.S. arms to Iran and used Israeli middlemen to sell U.S. arms to Iran as early as 1962, the Senate committee report said.

Israel has said it became involved in the Iran arms affair at the request of the United States and in order to help free American hostages.

The newspaper quoted a "very senior Israeli official" as commenting on the difference between Nimrodi's statement and the government's position. "Our explanations up to now have always been in reference to Israeli-American cooperation in the transfer of American-made weapons to Iran. We do not comment on the sale, or potential sale, of Israeli-made weapons."

The newspaper described some of Nimrodi's remarks as "self-serving" and said others "seemed

to contradict previous official explanations and raised questions about Israel's candor in explaining its involvement in the affair."

The New York Times, in an editorial, said Sunday lies and self-deception characterized White House behaviour in the arms-for-Iran, cash-for-contras affair and its reaction to a Senate report continues the illusory pattern.

"Judging from the roseate White House reaction, the self-deception continues," the Times said in an editorial.

Contrary to President Reagan's assertions, the Senate intelligence committee report issued on Thursday neither confirms steamlake motives for the Iran arms dealings nor proves his ignorance of the diversion of the profits, the Times said.

Even if the affair started innocently as a gesture towards Iran, the paper said, "it quickly degenerated, first into an arms-for-hostages deal and then into a way to sneak money to the contras. Lying was an indispensable means to those ends."

Deceptions within the administration apparently hindered an accurate reading of Israeli motives, misrepresented a National Security Council initiative to Israel and hid efforts to get foreign countries to give money to the contras, the Times said.

"The key participants gave each other wrong answers at key moments, creating a false sense of security," the Times said.

The paper called the committee report "a prelude to deeper probes" and said, "apparently Congress must sift through layers of lies to find out what hap-

pened."

Meanwhile the Washington Post said Sunday the Senate committee investigating White House involvement in secret U.S. arms supplies to Iran and Nicaragua rebels is expected to seek access to President Reagan's private notes.

The Post said White House Chief of Staff Donald Regan told a closed session of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence last month the president was keeping a diary to help him write his memoirs.

The newspaper said committee member Senator William Cohen, a Maine Republican, believed the notes might contain references to the Iran-contras affair, and would ask for access to them.

Both houses of Congress have set up committees to investigate the Iran arms shipments and whether money from Iran was used to supply arms to rebels, known as contras, fighting the Marxist government in Nicaragua.

The Post said a parallel could be drawn with the tapes kept by President Nixon which the supreme court ordered him to hand over to a court investigating the Watergate scandal.

The Post quoted White House sources as saying the president often wrote longhand notes to himself and handed them over to his secretary for transcription.

The Reagan White House has so far agreed to comply for requests for documents made by the various committees investigating the Iran affair.

A White House spokesman had no comment Sunday on the Washington Post report.

## Kuwait displays arms belonging to accused saboteurs

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait has displayed American, Israeli and Soviet weapons from arms caches which it says belonged to a 16-strong sabotage ring accused of recent bombings and fires at key oil sites.

The weaponry, including Israeli-made Uzzi and Soviet-made Kalashnikov machine guns, dozens of handguns and hand grenades, plastic explosives, ammunition, and timing and wiring devices were shown on state-controlled Kuwait Television Saturday night.

The Interior Ministry Saturday announced Kuwait had arrested 11 men and sought five more for the bombings and fires in June 1965 and last Jan. 19.

The 1965 blasts, which set off a huge blast at Kuwait's main Mina Al Ahmadi Refinery 32 kilometres south of the capital, were claimed by a previously unknown group "the Arab Revolutionaries of the United Arab Revolution."

"Revolutionary Organisation — the Forces of the Prophet Mohammed in Kuwait," also previously unknown, said it was behind fires this month at three offshore and desert oil sites.

Security officials, in the television broadcast, showed arms caches being unearthed in the gardens of villas of two of the accused and weapons recovered from two others.

Saturday's Interior Ministry statement named all 16 accused, but did not give their nationalities.

Diplomats said the names indicated all were Kuwaiti, and that several came from families of Iranian origin.

Al Seyassah newspaper and its sister daily Arab Times said Sunday: "We would not have been surprised had this come from strangers or infiltrators not loyal to this country and without the honour of nationality."

But, their editorials stated: "These people have been given Kuwait citizenship. Kuwait has been very generous to them, given them the status as its sons... What do these devils want and for what evil side do they work?"

The Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah said Saturday night security men made their arrests three days after the Jan. 19 blasts and shortly before an Islamic summit opened here on Jan. 26.

In a televised appearance with 52 ambassadors and heads of Kuwaiti diplomatic missions abroad, he described the pre-summit sabotage as "a kind of pressure so that the conference would not convene."

"Some have tried, using all means, to scuttle the conference," he declared.

## War can seem distant in Baghdad

By John Rice  
Associated Press

BAGHDAD — It is easy to forget that this place they call the "city of peace" is a city at war. Downtown streets throng with people on these balmy evenings, and the nightclubs throb with music.

The hammering of coppermiths echoes off the medieval walls of the serpentine bazaar, and the cries on rut hawkes compete with squabbles over the price of turnips and packages of Chinese underwear.

Down a quiet night street nearby, on the steps of a brick house so decrepit it seemed to be melting, a young man sat in a dimly lit doorway one recent night, singing softly and strumming a guitar for the girl sitting beside him.

But black reminders of the 6-year-old conflict with Iran flap in the wind against the city's houses and mosques. Mourning banners raised by relatives of men "martyred" at the front.

Occasionally, poking above the hom-honking downtown traffic, there are flag-draped coffins on the roof-tops of taxis and buses.

By some Western estimates, some 10,000 Iraqis have died this month in fighting near the southern city of Basra. Their bodies are still returning home, and so the black cloth banners are still rising.

In the dusty city of Ramadi, some 105 kilometres west of Baghdad, reporters saw 11 new banners draped on the fence before a mosque.

The banners, the colour of the head-to-toe abayyas worn by pious women here, are often about one metre by 1.5 metres,

pointed on them are verses from Islam's holy book, the Quran, and the names, battlefields and death dates of Iraqi soldiers.

On Baghdad's walls, some have faded to an illegible gray over the years of the long war. They hang beside jet-black banners from the past week.

The Iraqi capital itself is menaced by Iranian missiles launched from some 200 kilometres away. They crash through the sound barrier and send a sharp double boom echoing across the low-rise city of 4 million people.

The most recent, on Jan. 24, flattened a block of homes and shattered windows for almost a kilometre around.

Among the dead, neighbours said, was a barber named Ibrahim Odeh and five members of his family.

Later that night, as rescue workers struggled through piles of broken concrete, brick and torn bedding, a taxi pulled up with the flag-covered coffin of Odeh's son, killed at the front.

The missile attacks on that area, apparently aimed unsuccessfully at nearby industrial facilities, caused many people there to seek temporary shelter with friends and relatives.

But in most of Baghdad, life has a seemingly normal air — at least for those who shun the military communique and reports of victory in the morning papers and the evening television broadcasts.

Bakeries display small mountains of bread, candies and cakes. Fresh meat dangles in the windows of butcher shops. Heaps of lettuce, oranges and eggplants are on display in street-side stalls, and in the bazaar, or souk, the

arrow lanes are crowded with colors of numerous products — fresh yellow spices, Korean razor blades, Romanian fabric.

Although the government ordered home foreign bar girls several months ago to save on the foreign exchange they were sending to homes abroad, barbers for Baghdad's famed night clubs still wheedle customers inside for a night of live Arabic music and beer.

On a recent night, a visitor counted hundreds of people passing on each of several blocks as he walked along Saadon Street — Baghdad's Broadway — although Iraqis insist the crowds have been thinned by the war.

In cafes, groups of men swigged beer and watched a televised soccer match.

In the "space" video arcade, young men in fatigues and camouflage uniforms, on leave from a World War I-style battlefield, forced electronic beeps and groans from a game called galaxion.

Hundreds of people poured from the Babel Cinema, which advertised an Indian-made karate film.

And on a recent Friday several thousand people showed their way into the Baghdad Horse-riding Club for a taste of the life that Iran's religious patriarch, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, has stamped out in his country.

Bettors in flowing Arabian clothes doodled on racing charts and fingered worry beads before placing bets.

And like race fans anywhere, they rose to their feet and roared as the light-footed little Arabian horses sped past the finish line.

## King congratulates Iraq on its victories

(Continued from page 1)

Saddam," some cheered.

The day before, people in Baghdad had fired volleys of automatic gun fire into the air in celebration after an excited television announcer announced a "great victory."

Iraq said its forces retook a seven-by-five-kilometre strip of land near Fish Lake.

A Western military analyst told AP in Baghdad "it's a significant development because they have gone on the offensive... we've all been waiting for them to go on the offensive."

The analyst said the Iraqis had "established themselves in a position where they can counterattack."

Iraq has claimed it defeated the Iraqi thrust on Saturday, killing or wounding 3,300 Iraqi fighters.

Most fighting in the past three weeks appears to have been in an area north of the Shatt Al Arab waterway, downstream from Basra, bordered by Jassim River on the east and the dual canal and Fish Lake on the west and north.

Iraq said Sunday its jets hit six Iranian towns and cities in retaliation for Iranian attacks on civilian centres, including a missile strike on Baghdad.

Baghdad also reported an air strike on a vessel in the northern Gulf. Lloyd's shipping intelli-

gence in London said it believed an Iranian tanker, the 137,855-ton Khark 3, was holed by a missile.

A Baghdad military spokesman said Iraqi planes launched destructive raids on the northwestern towns of Miandowab, Mianeh, Maragheh and Shalpur in response to Iranian air, artillery and missile attacks on its cities.

Iraq reported air raids Friday night on the Iranian cities of Esfahan and Tabriz shortly after the seventh missile in 20 days hit Baghdad, killing or wounding a number of people.

Iraq said a number of civilians were killed or injured when the surface-to-surface missile hit a residential area of Baghdad.

Iraq claimed the missile was aimed at a "strategic military centre" in the city and that the attack marked the start of a "new stage in deterrent and retaliatory measures."

Iraq's Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yassin Ramadan was quoted Sunday as saying that his country plans a "new style" of war against Iran that would result in vastly higher civilian casualties.

London's Observer said Mr. Ramadan, regarded as Iraq's second most powerful figure after President Hussein, threatened to bombard Iranian civilian targets to "inflict casualties such as the Iraqis have never seen."

Iraq, he was quoted as saying, will impose "a great burden on Iran, in that Iran will lose 10 times as many casualties as it is losing now." He did not elaborate.

The newspaper, in a report from Baghdad, said unidentified "foreign observers" believe Iraq could be preparing to use long-range Soviet missiles known as "scaleboards," or SS-12s, for the first time.

The missiles have a range of more than 800 kilometres compared with the 200 kilometres range of the Scud-B missile both sides have been using in their "six-year-old war," and "can destroy an area the size of 10 football pitches," the Observer said.

"As deployed with Soviet troops in Europe, the missile has nuclear capability," the paper said. "If the Iraqis do have it, however, they will certainly have the vision with a conventional warhead."

Military analysts believe Iraq has acquired SS-12s, either from the Soviet Union or indirectly, in the form of Chinese-made copies, the paper said.

In another development, a Tehran newspaper, in a clear reference to Libya, on Sunday assailed those who said the Iran-Iraq war would have no winner and its continuation was madness.

## Israel again denies diverting funds to contras

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israel Sunday denied a report in a new U.S. Senate report that it proposed diverting profits from the Iran arms deal to anti-government Nicaraguan contra rebels.

"Following the latest report, Israel reaffirms that it had no knowledge or was not a party in any way to the alleged diversion of Iranian funds to the contras," said Avi Pazner, spokesman for Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir.

The report last week of the Senate Intelligence Committee said Amir Nir, the counter-terrorism adviser to former Prime Minister Shimon Peres, proposed diverting the profits despite a U.S. congressional ban.

Pazner told reporters after a weekly cabinet meeting that all Israeli involvement was in cooperation with the Americans.

"None of the money transferred by the Iranians went through or remained in the hands of Israel or its representatives," he said.

"Likewise there is no foundation to allegations that Israel suggested to the United States that arms from Israel be delivered to the contras."

It was unclear from Pazner's statement whether or not Israeli

arms had reached the rebels.

The Senate report said Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin told the Reagan administration in Washington last September that Israel was prepared to ship captured Soviet Bloc arms directly to the contras.

Rabin's spokesman on Friday denied the allegation. He said Rabin had rejected a request from a member of the U.S. National Security Council to supply arms to the contras.

The Senate report said Israel shipped arms to Iran as early as 1962, well before Washington asked it to do so, despite Israeli assertions it supplied arms only at U.S. request.

Israeli politicians and newspapers Sunday urged their leaders to be candid when U.S. leaders officially ask for information, but they warned that some Americans in the affair could be exaggerating Israel's role to save face.

Shamir is expected to face tough questioning from U.S. leaders when he visits Washington in less than three weeks.

Parliamentarian Dan Meridor, his close adviser, said: "The only subject that concerns me is of

course the subject of the contras — the claim that we helped the administration or people in the administration to deceive Congress."

Congress has approved \$3 billion in U.S. military and economic aid to Israel this year, more than for any other country.

"The support of Israel in the United States is not just from the president, even though he is a friendly president, but first of all with the Congress and public opinion," Meridor said.

The Jerusalem Post newspaper said in an editorial:

"If in fact Israel has nothing to fear and nothing to hide, it should be possible to transfer the data

which backs this up to the relevant American investigative forums in order to inhibit further damage to Israel's reputation."

Despite the denials, the Maariv newspaper reported Sunday that Israel shipped captured Soviet-made rifles to an unidentified U.S. destination last October knowing that they were enroute to the contras. But the Americans sent the ship back to the Israeli Red Sea port of Eilat when the Iran arms scandal broke.

"The fact that the U.S. was the intermediary in the transfer of arms to the contras enables Israel to truthfully declare that it never shipped arms to the contras," Maariv said.

## Hawke arrives in Cairo

CAIRO (R) — Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke arrived in Cairo Sunday for trade and political talks with Egyptian officials.

Mr. Hawke, the first Australian premier to visit Egypt since 1956, pledged support for an independent Palestinian state on his trip to Israel — remarks which were warmly welcomed here.

Officials said Mr. Hawke's

talks in Cairo would focus on ways to step up bilateral trade links.

Australian Ambassador Kenneth Rogers told reporters the current trade balance is not in Egypt's favour, with imports of \$480 million worth of Australian goods, mainly wheat, against only \$300,000 worth of exports.

TV & RADIO		WHAT'S GOING ON		FOR THE TRAVELLER		USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.				
<b>JORDAN TELEVISION</b> Tel: 77311/19  <b>PROGRAMME ONE</b> 15:30 ..... Koran 15:35 ..... Programme review 15:45 ..... Cartoons 16:10 ..... Tom Sawyer 16:35 ..... Scientific programme (Arabic) 17:00 ..... Different Stories 17:30 ..... Time to Time 18:00 ..... Arabic scenes 18:50 ..... Local panel 19:20 ..... Local programme 19:50 ..... Programme review and varieties 20:00 ..... News in Arabic 20:30 ..... Message from Oman 20:40 ..... Arabic scenes 21:40 ..... Local comedy 22:00 ..... Tomorrow's programme 22:05 ..... Arabic scenes 22:30 ..... News summary in Arabic 23:10 ..... Arabic varieties 23:40 ..... Close down  <b>PROGRAMME TWO</b> 18:00 ..... L'Amour des hommes 19:00 ..... News in French 19:15 ..... Sport magazine (French) 19:30 ..... News in Hebrew 19:45 ..... Magazine Zero One 20:00 ..... News in Arabic 20:30 ..... New Comedy Series 21:10 ..... Rage of Angles (mini series) 22:00 ..... News in English 22:30 ..... Splendor of the Moghols  <b>RADIO JORDAN</b> 853 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM & partly on 2500 KHz, SW Tel: 77411-19  07:30 ..... Light Music 07:30 ..... Newsradio 08:00 ..... Morning Show 10:00 ..... News Summary 10:30 ..... News in Arabic 11:00 ..... Follow the Wing 12:30 ..... News Summary 12:45 ..... Pop Session Continues 14:00 ..... News Bulletin 14:30 ..... Concert 14:50 ..... Concert Hour 16:00 ..... News Summary 16:05 ..... Instruments 16:30 ..... Old Favorites 17:00 ..... My Word 17:30 ..... Fox Session 18:00 ..... News Summary 18:30 ..... Sports Round-up 18:30 ..... Music		<b>BBC WORLD SERVICE</b> 630, 720, 1323 KHz  06:40 News 06:30 The Wind in the Willows 06:45 Reflections 06:50 Waveguide 07:00 World News 07:05 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary 07:30 Nature Notebook 07:45 Recording of the Week 08:00 News 08:30 Not So Long Ago 08:40 World News 08:50 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary 09:30 Play: Jude the Obscure 10:00 World News 10:05 Reflections 10:15 The Wind in the Willows 10:30 Any Thing Goes 11:00 World News 11:05 British Press Review 11:15 Good Book 11:30 Financial News 11:45 People's Choice 12:00 News Summary; Not So Long Ago 12:30 The Alternative From 12:30 News Summary 12:50 News About Britain 13:15 Zoowalk - Berlin 13:30 Album Time 14:00 Radio Newsworld 14:15 Cereals, Uniquely 14:45 Sports Round-up 15:00 World News 15:05 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary 15:30 Look What They've done to my Song 16:00 News Summary; Outlook 16:05 Stories by Dorothy 17:00 Radio Newsworld 17:15 Not So Long Ago 17:45 Kings of Swing 18:00 World News 18:05 Commentary 19:15 My Word  <b>VOICE OF AMERICA</b> MW 1260 & SW 720, 955, 1170, 11925 and 12210 KHz  05:00 News 05:10 Newsline 05:30 VOA Morning 06:00 News 06:10 Newsline 06:30 VOA Morning 07:00 News 07:10 Newsline 07:30 VOA Morning 08:00 News 08:10 Newsline 08:30 VOA Morning 09:00 News 09:10 Newsline 09:30 VOA Morning 09:57 News Summary 17:00 Newsline 17:10 Newsline 17:30 Music USA 12:00 News 12:10 Focus 12:30 Special English and Features 19:00 News 19:10 Newsline 19:30 Magazine Show 20:00 News 20:10 Focus 20:30 Special English News & Features 21:00 News 21:10 Newsline 21:30 Music USA 22:00 News & Editorial 22:15 Music USA Jazz 23:00 News 23:10 World Report		<b>TODAY'S EVENTS</b>  <b>EXHIBITIONS</b> * A painting exhibition by Saleh Abu Shindi at the Petra Bank Gallery - Wadi Saqra (until Feb. 5). * An exhibition of photos from Pompeii at the Centre in Paris at the French Cultural Centre (until Feb. 12).  <b>WESTERN FOLK AND FILM WEEK</b> The American Centre is presenting a Western Folk art exhibition and Western film festival at the Royal Cultural Centre. The folk art exhibition runs through Feb. 10. The film festival runs through Feb. 5. Today's film: "The Ox-Bow Incident" at 7:30 p.m.  <b>CHURCHES</b> St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabel Amman, Tel. 624590. Anglican Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabel Luvabeh, Tel. 67740. De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabel Hamein, Tel. 66177. Armenian Church (Roman Catholic), Jabel Luvabeh, near in Italian language, meet every Saturday at 5:30 p.m. Tel. 62266. Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abdo, Tel. 6231. Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabel Amman, Tel. 678906. Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafiah, Tel. 717331. Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafiah, Tel. 717331. St. Raphael Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafiah, Tel. 717331. Armenian International Church (Inter-denominational), meets at Southern Baptist School in Shamsiah, Tel. 677534. Evangelical Lutheran Church, Jabel Amman, 6th Circle, (Rev. N. Smith), Tel. 611295. Inter-denominational (International) Inter-denominational meets in the Church of the Redeemer, Jabel Amman, Tel. 609774.  <b>MUSEUMS</b> Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 631760. Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabel Al Qal'a  <b>PRAYER TIMES</b> 05:00 ..... Fajr 06:27 ..... (Sunrise) Dhuhr 11:40 ..... Asr 14:42 ..... Maghrib 18:30 ..... Isha		<b>QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT</b>  This information is supplied by The Royal Jordanian Information Department at the Queen Alia International Airport tel. (05) 53220-5, where it should always be verified.  <b>ARRIVALS</b> <b>ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS</b> (Terminal 1) 08:00 ..... Agaba (RJ) 08:20 ..... Cairo (RJ) 08:25 ..... Jeddah (RJ) 08:30 ..... Moscow, Dubai (RJ) 08:30 ..... Damascus (RJ) 08:50 ..... Abu Dhabi, Kuwait (RJ) 12:00 ..... Bahrain (RJ) 12:45 ..... Bangkok (RJ) 14:00 ..... Baghdad (RJ)  <b>OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)</b> 08:00 ..... London (BA) 08:40 ..... Damascus, Athens (OA) 08:50 ..... Cairo (MS) 09:20 ..... Frankfurt (LH) 14:00 ..... Bahrain, Dubai (GF) 15:00 ..... Beirut (KU) 21:30 ..... Baghdad (IA)  <b>MONEY EXCHANGE</b> Sunday rates Local currency rates in JLD Belgian franc ..... 85/6 Dutch guilder ..... 162/7 French franc ..... 52/5 Italian lire ..... 25/5 Japanese yen (for 100/218.5) ..... 22/6 Swedish crown ..... 52/2 Swiss franc ..... 217/2 U.K. sterling pound ..... 308/7 U.S. dollar ..... 336/6 W. German mark ..... 183/3  <b>OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)</b> 08:00 ..... London, Baghdad (BA) 07:35 ..... Cairo (MS) 08:20 ..... Sam's (LE) 12:50 ..... Bahrain (GF) 13:45 ..... Beirut (KU) 14:25 ..... Beirut (MS) 20:30 ..... Baghdad (IA)  <b>WEATHER</b> Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology. The temperature will be above normal. Medium and high clouds will appear with southeasterly light to moderate winds. In Agaba, winds will be southeasterly moderate and calm sea. Min./Max. temp. Amman ..... 10/22 Agaba ..... 15/30 Deserts ..... 12/28 Jordan Valley ..... 13/25 Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 21, Agaba 27. Humidity readings: Amman 41 per cent, Agaba 32 per cent.  <b>DEPARTURES</b> <b>ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS</b> (Terminal 1) 06:45 ..... Agaba (RJ) 11:30 ..... Paris (AF) 11:45 ..... Vienna, Chicago, Los Angeles (RJ) 12:15 ..... Frankfurt, Copenhagen (RJ) 12:40 ..... Larnaca (RJ) 13:30 ..... Cairo (RJ) 14:00 ..... Bahrain, Dubai (RJ) 20:45 ..... Abu Dhabi, Kuwait (RJ) 20:45 ..... Kuwait, Doha (RJ) 21:00 ..... Baghdad (RJ) 21:00 ..... Jeddah (RJ) 21:15 ..... Cairo (RJ)		<b>EMERGENCIES</b> Amman government ..... 891228 Amman civil defence ..... 198, 199 Civil Defence helpline ..... 271283, 2731 Civil Defence Damascus ..... 77033 Civil Defence Doha ..... 57305 Civil Defence Doha Alia ..... 57305 Ambulance ..... 199, 775111 Amman downtown fire brigade ..... 198 First aid ..... 77835 Blood bank ..... 620341 Police ..... 77835 Civil Defence rescue ..... 62090-3 Fire headquarters ..... 62090-3 Police rescue ..... 192, 621111, 657777 Police helpline ..... 629141 Police helpline ..... 629141 Traffic police ..... 629141 Electric Power Co. ..... 636304, 624881 Municipal water complaints ..... 7712158 Al Sadeh tel. (05) 533040 Queen Alia Intl. Airport (05) 533040  <b>NIGHT DUTY</b> AMMAN: Dr. Joseph Mash ..... 770560 Dr. Othman Al-Haj Ali ..... 741299 Ghazwan ..... 63739 Nikrokh pharmacy ..... 723672 Khalaf pharmacy ..... 778653 Fram pharmacy ..... 661912 Saleh pharmacy ..... 668036 Husain pharmacy ..... 845756  <b>TAXIS</b> Shahed taxi ..... 623725 Jerusalem taxis ..... 039655 Hebron taxi ..... 770301 Beaman taxi ..... 829433 Ma'ab taxi ..... 826624 Al Sadeh taxi ..... 773099 Seyid taxi ..... 646319 Kandi taxi ..... 847372  <b>HOSPITALS</b> Husain Medical Centre ..... 81381/332 Khalaf Maternity, J. Amn ..... 6442816 Al-Sadeh Maternity, J. Amn ..... 6424412 Jabel Amman Maternity ..... 642362 Mallat, J. Amn ..... 6441714 Palestine, Shamsiah ..... 669131 University Hospital ..... 84394565 Al-Husain Medical Centre ..... 6672279 The Islamic, Abdo ..... 6661217 Al-Ahli, Abdo ..... 6641646 Italian, Al-Muhajirah ..... 7771013 Al-Rashid, J. Ashrafiah ..... 7751126 Acacy ..... 8916115 Queen Alia Hospital ..... 6224050 Amal Hospital ..... 674135  <b>GENERAL</b> Jordan Television ..... 77311/19 Radio Jordan ..... 77411/19 Ministry of Tourism ..... 642311 Hotel complaints ..... 666412 Police complaints ..... 661178 Telephone Information ..... 12 Jordan and Middle East calls ..... 10 Overseas calls ..... 17 Repair service ..... 11		<b>MARKET PRICES</b>  Upper/lower price in fit per kg. Apple (double red and standard) ..... 240 / 180 Garlic ..... 600 / 350 Grapfruit ..... 130 / 100 Lemon ..... 120 / 80 Marrow ..... 150 / 100 Beans (Mushroom) ..... 150 / 150 Onion (dry) ..... 190 / 150 Onion (green) ..... 190 / 150 Orange (Alm Shara) ..... 250 / 200 Orange (Shamsiah) ..... 230 / 180 Pepper (hot) ..... 300 / 200 Pepper (sweet) ..... 300 / 250 Fruit ..... 220 / 170 Rice ..... 80 / 50 Spinach ..... 110 / 80 Tomatoes ..... 200 / 150 Turnip ..... 120 / 70



## NEWS IN BRIEF

## Lawzi meets new Pakistani envoy

AMMAN (Petra) — Upper House of Parliament Speaker Ahmad Al Lawzi on Sunday received at his office the newly-appointed Pakistani ambassador to Jordan Lieutenant General Saghir Hussein Syed on the occasion of the assumption of his new post in Jordan. Talks during the meeting focused on existing relations between Jordan and Pakistan, especially cooperation in parliamentary fields.

## Himoud receives engineers' president

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Agriculture Marwan Himoud on Sunday received Mr. Tareq Al Tai, president of the Jordanian Agricultural Engineers Association. They reviewed the condition of agricultural engineers in general, with special attention to those unemployed and newly-graduated engineers. They also discussed the prospect of employing these engineers to have training at public and private sector businesses. The minister promised to organise an open meeting with the agricultural engineers and officials on Jan. 18 to discuss the problem.

## Ministry invited to medical symposium

AMMAN (Petra) — The Health Ministry has received an invitation to attend an international symposium on medical sciences to be held in Holland during the coming month. During the four-day symposium, subjects related to the development of health strategies and promoting health services will be discussed. The ministry's under secretary, Dr. Salehman Subeili, will represent the ministry at the symposium.

## University, vets discuss cooperation

AMMAN (Petra) — University of Science and Technology President Kamel Al Ajlouni on Sunday received president of the Jordanian Vets Association Abdul Fattah Al Keilani and a number of the association's board members. The meeting discussed cooperation between the university and the association after a Royal Decree approved the establishment of a faculty of agriculture and veterinary medicine at the university. Dr. Keilani stressed the need for a veterinary medicine faculty in Jordan, especially in the post-graduate studies field to turn out veterinary specialists who could help find solutions to the problems and diseases affecting animals in Jordan.

## Hamzeh, governor of Irbid review plans for health centres

IRBID (Petra) — Minister of Health Zaid Hamzeh visited Irbid on Sunday and met with Irbid Governor Mohammad Ali Al Amin to discuss the general health situation in the governorate and projects included in the five-year development plan to improve health services in the region. Discussion also covered the prospect of establishing an integrated health centre in Irbid on a plot of land offered by Irbid Municipality.

Dr. Hamzeh said that his ministry plans to open 10 health centres during this month in 10

villages around Irbid. Later, the minister and the governor, accompanied by Irbid Mayor Abdul Razzak Tubeishat, visited the health department and health centres in Irbid.

The minister also called at the University of Science and Technology where he met the university's president, Dr. Kamel Ajlouni. They discussed the implementation of an agreement on health cooperation between the ministry and the university which is to be implemented at the government-run Princess Basma Hospital in the city.

## Bomb explodes on bus

(Continued from page 1)

A statement issued in Damascus said the bus was destroyed and nine Jewish settlers were wounded.

Israel Radio reported the bomb exploded in a luggage compartment under the bus, or possibly under the driver's seat.

Just before the bus left Haifa, police received a telephoned warning of a suspicious object placed at the city's central bus station. The station was searched for 30 minutes but nothing was found and the buses were allowed to leave, said a police spokeswoman.

Reporting the acid attack at Gaza school, Israel Radio said that the masked attackers were apparently trying to force the girls to demonstrate against Israeli occupation troops in the Gaza Strip.

Military sources, speaking on condition of anonymity, told AP the injured girls were taken to the city's Shifa hospital. Most of the girls, students of the Ahmad Shamsi High School, were released shortly afterwards, said the sources.

Palestinian sources, who refused to be identified further, told AP two or three girls were still in the hospital. According to the Israeli version of the shoot-and-run attack in the town of Rafiah, the incident occurred after Palestinians stoned an Israeli vehicle.

Police said they searched for the motorist who fled in his car after firing the shots. Palestinian sources identified the youth as 16-year-old Aris Abu Ta. They said he was in fair condition at a hospital in Khan Younis.

Israel Radio said later police were questioning a resident of a nearby Jewish settlement in connection with the incident.

Unrest has mounted in Gaza since Israel last month expelled a suspected local youth leader, Mohammad Dahlan.

Students in Gaza stayed away from classes in protest against the death on Friday of a Palestinian boy shot by Israeli paramilitary police during a demonstration last week.

Military officials said Sunday seven Gazans were jailed under what they called preventive arrest measures. The officials said they were suspected of planning incitement or participation in demonstrations.

## Mubarak criticises Assad

(Continued from page 1)

"They (the Syrians) started the attacks during the foreign ministers meetings, and insulted us with words that I can't repeat, shocking everyone."

Islamic conference sources said a senior Syrian branded Egypt a "nude whore" during a preliminary meeting of delegates.

"We Arabs have two mischief-makers among us out to spoil conferences, Islamic summits and Non-Aligned Movement summits," Mr. Mubarak said, citing Libyan and Syrian lengthy attacks on Egypt during such conferences.

Commenting on his brief talk with Mr. Assad in Kuwait, Mr. Mubarak said they were close to agreeing on a plan for an exchange of views via low-level talks, to be followed by wider Arab consultations.

"I told him 'I want you to stop insulting us,' and he said 'but I never insulted you.'"

"I found this strange, am I not the leader of Egypt that they insult? Or am I hired from Libya to rule Egypt?" Mr. Mubarak said, drawing peals of laughter from the audience.

Continuing his account of the encounter with Mr. Assad, Mr. Mubarak said he suggested sending



QUEEN OPENS PARKS — Greater Amman Municipality held an Arbor Day celebration on Sunday at Jabal Qusur district, at the Royal Racing Club and in Umm Uthman under the patronage of Her Majesty Queen Noor. The Queen on this occasion opened three public parks at the sites and took part in planting olive trees. She also visited Amman national park and inspected work going on there. Greater Amman Mayor Abdul Ra'uf Al Rawabdeh and Mrs. In'am Al Mufti, director general of the Noor Al Hussein Foundation, and other officials took part in the tree planting activities. The three parks opened on Sunday contain play areas for children with grounds for volleyball and basketball and viewing stands for spectators (Petra photo).

## Lower House to debate wide ranging laws during eighth ordinary session

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Lower House of Parliament will hold a session on Tuesday to discuss a number of laws and refer other legislation to its five specialised committees for further review.

The House's session on Tuesday is its eighth ordinary meeting since Parliament was inaugurated last November and it is expected to refer a draft law covering an amendment to the investment law, the 1986 law to set up the Jordan Agricultural Marketing Association and another amendment to the law on foreign residency in Jordan.

The first draft law, according to economists, comes in line with the government's efforts to encourage local and foreign investments in Jordan's agricultural, industrial, health, education and transport sectors as well as in the financial market. The government has already initiated numerous legislations to achieve its goal of supporting investments in its newly launched JD 3.15 billion

development plan for 1986-1990, in which the private sector's total investments are projected to be 49 per cent.

The second draft law to be referred to the House's legal committee will pave the way for setting up a national agricultural marketing institution, the goals of which will be to draw up agricultural marketing policies to be adopted by the Agriculture Ministry and eventually implemented through the association. The association, a senior official said, will lead a helping hand to the ministry since it will be acting as a follow up liaison on all legalised legislations. Agriculture Minister Marwan Himoud earlier told the Jordan Times the association would also be commissioned to conduct feasibility studies on local agricultural produce and means of marketing them both locally and regionally.

Asked if the role of the proposed organisation might possibly clash with other existing specialised institutions, such as the Agricultural Marketing and Processing Company of Jordan (AMPCO), Mr. Himoud said that each of the two associations had a different role to perform.

He explained that AMPCO was the executive branch to market local and Jordanian products abroad, while the proposed institution would be restricted to the research aspects of all agricultural related matters.

The House will also refer two funding agreements reached between the government of Jordan and the Arab Fund for Socio-Economic Development to finance part of the almost JD 17 million Zaza-Ghor Hadithah highway and another loan agreement to finance a project to develop the Zarqa River Basin.

Under the agreement, the Arab Fund will contribute 5.6 million Kuwaiti dinars (KD) to build part of the highway.

The deputies will also refer to the House's financial committee the 1985 Audit Bureau report.

Among those laws expected to be passed on Tuesday are the 1986 draft law on nuclear power and protection from radiation; a draft amendment covering the supplementary budget for 1984 and amendments to the 1976, and 1978 draft laws on the Amman Financial Market (AFM).

They will also discuss a suggestion submitted by 28 deputies to amend an article in the law on the Jordanian Medical Association which stipulates the irrevocability of decisions taken by the association's disciplinary committee.

Ten suggestions filed by some deputies will also be referred to the specialised committees. These suggestions include a call to set up a district directorate in the Mudawwar area (part of Mafraq Governorate), and another to raise the administrative ranks of the Ball'ama and Birzin district governors, submitted by Deputy Jalal Marzuq Al Qallab.

Deputy Mifrah Al Odattallah suggested raising the educational capabilities of the Mudawwar school from its present preparatory standard to that of a secondary high school.

In another two suggestions, Deputy Obaidat urged the Telecommunications Corporation (TCC) to improve its telecommunications services in the southern Kourah district governorate, and he appealed to the government to asphalt the road between Jenin and Safa and Arhim in the north. Deputy Mufied that emergency cases should be admitted for treatment in government hospitals and medical clinics.

## Committee receives 125 papers for fifth medical conference

AMMAN (Petra) — A large number of Jordanian and foreign physicians and specialists are expected to take part in the fifth Jordanian medical conference, scheduled to open here early next month, and a committee in charge of preparing for the gathering has received a total of 125 working papers and scientific research works to be submitted to the conference, according to Dr. Zuhair Abu Faris, the committee's information chairman.

He said that the working papers deal mainly with the ophthalmology, general surgery, plastic surgery and diseases affecting women and children.

During the conference, the Jordanian Medical Association (JMA) will organise seminars on the treatment of cancer, child mortality, the employment of laser beams for medical purposes, industrial medicine and medical sciences in the future, Dr. Abu Faris noted.

## Public concern over road accidents warrants more action, PSD officer says

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordanian society is preoccupied and greatly concerned about the numerous accidents on the roads and this problem is one of the most pressing in the Kingdom and is on the minds of the people all the time, Director of Traffic at the Public Security Department (PSD) Colonel Mahmoud Al Mashni said at a meeting held in Amman on Sunday.

He said that 13,700 road accidents occurred in Jordan last year, resulting in the death of 363 people and the injury of 7,539 others and although these figures were down from 16,780 accidents in 1985, which killed a total of 524 and injured 9,100, there was still an urgent need to greatly reduce the death and injury toll.

Col. Mashni, who was addressing a committee preparing for World Traffic Day and Arab Traffic Day activities to be held in the Kingdom, said that public

awareness and people's interaction with the laws and regulations could greatly help the authorities to curb the number of accidents and reduce the resultant human and material losses. Col. Mashni's statements coincided with the reinforcement of regulations regarding drivers and occupants of front seats in public and private cars to wear seat belts for greater safety on the roads. Violators of the new regulations will be liable to fines of between JD 5 and JD 15.

During the meeting, a general review of the committee's work and its preparations were made and its activities over the past year were assessed. The committee discussed the subject of setting up sub-committees to take care of information programmes, seminars and lectures at schools and various organisations to the awareness among members of the public about road safety.

The committee, set up by the minister of interior, groups representatives of the Ministries of Interior, Municipal and Rural Affairs, Public Works, Education, Higher Education, Energy and Mineral Resources as well as the Tourism Authority, the Public Security Department, Amman Municipality, the Royal Automobile Club, the Jordanian Society for the Prevention of Road Accidents and the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

## Muasher in Damascus for trade and industry talks

DAMASCUS (Petra) — Minister of Industry and Trade Rajai Muasher arrived in Damascus on Sunday for a three-day visit and talks with Dr. Mohammad Imadi, Syrian minister of economic and foreign trade.

During the visit, Dr. Muasher will also meet Syrian Minister of Industry Ali Tarabulsi to discuss means of promoting industrial cooperation between Jordan and Syria and subjects pertaining to joint industrial ventures.

Dr. Muasher and Dr. Imadi will also attend the general assembly meetings of the Jordanian-Syrian Industrial Free Zone Corporation.

The corporation's general director Hashem Al Dabbas said in a statement that the general assembly will discuss a general budget for 1987, allocations for investments and a general working plan for this year.

The meeting will also discuss the subject of implementing a Jordanian-Syrian agreement on allowing 25 per cent of Syrian and Jordanian industrial products to enter both countries' markets through the joint free zones, according to Dr. Dabbas.

The general assembly, which meets twice a year, is co-chaired by the ministers of industry and trade in both countries.

The meeting will discuss requests submitted by a number of investors to set up industrial businesses in the joint free zones and these include agricultural processing industries, according to Dr. Dabbas.

## UNESCO, Department of Statistics open course on scientific data

AMMAN (Petra) — The United Nations Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) on Sunday urged the Arab World to establish specialised units and departments to deal with science and technology.

The head of UNESCO's statistics department, Dr. Farid Bustani, said that such units would benefit from carefully-prepared statistics and would in turn contribute towards carrying out sound economic and social development plans.

Dr. Bustani, who was addressing the opening session of the first training course in Jordan on technology and science statistics, said that UNESCO's statistics office continues to organise training courses and helps statistics departments in various countries of the region, adding that it will continue to do so.

The opening session was also addressed by Dr. Abdul Hadi Alawin, director of the Department of Statistics. He said that Jordan and other Arab states are showing an increasing interest in the transfer of technology and conducting surveys on the activities of organisations and centres which are concerned with science and technology.

Taking part in the course are delegates from 10 Arab countries, participants will be oriented on subjects pertaining to methods of gathering and classifying data on science and technology, and conducting surveys on the activities of organisations and centres which are concerned with science and technology.

During the week-long course, participants from 10 Arab countries will be oriented on subjects pertaining to methods of gathering and classifying data on science and technology, and conducting surveys on the activities of organisations and centres which are concerned with science and technology.

Dr. Alawin called on Arab countries to draw up appropriate strategies for the transfer of technology and its employment.

Jordan since the 1950s has devoted its efforts towards developing its scientific and technological potentials, and this policy led to a rapid development in the national economy over the past few years, Dr. Alawin continued. He said that Jordan, through its highly skilled manpower has been able to offer assistance to other Arab states in developing their national economies.

The session was also addressed by Mr. Abdul Rahman Al Jabouri, director general of the Arab Institute for statistical training and research, who said that the training course, the first of its kind in the Arab World, was designed to develop skills and efficiency of those involved in statistics, especially in the field of science. Mr. Jabouri praised UNESCO's role in helping to develop statistics departments and their services in the Arab World.

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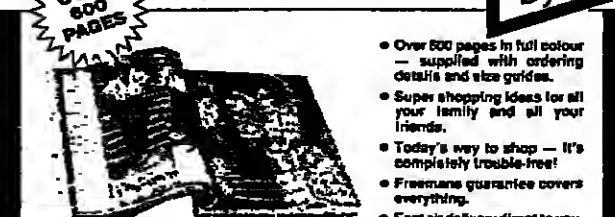
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## Vote for democracy

THE persistent attempts on the life of embryonic democracy in the Philippines is a reminder that well-entrenched, undemocratic governments die hard. The remnants of the old regime in Manila clearly have not relinquished their hopes of reestablishing themselves at the helm of power. Their continuous attacks on the young democracy through attempted coups demonstrate beyond doubt that after a generation of an undemocratic system of government the Philippines has been deprived of the necessary democratic traditions which make the new ship of state of President Corason Aquino sail in very rough seas. There is no doubt that for democracy to survive, it needs not only grass-root support but also solid foundations and proper groundwork. No one expected the forces associated with the previous regime of Ferdinand Marcos to surrender their old vested interests without a fight. But we think that the giant tide of freedom and liberty which has hit the shores of that country will survive all such designs and attempts on the new and fresh course which the Philippines has taken.

Nevertheless, the case of the Philippines is a good lesson in democracy. It demonstrates that the ideal situation for the development of democracy is to allow for an evolutionary transformation in the direction of responsible and free parliamentary system of government and, in that process, to lay the right foundations and create the necessary infrastructure for democratic rule. Short of these preparatory procedures, the people of the Philippines have been forced to plunge into a new system of government while remaining besieged by enemies and hostile forces. Against this backdrop, President Aquino has demonstrated wisdom, tolerance and determination on more than one occasion and from now she is forced to do the inevitable and start the process of purging the anti-democratic elements from the government and armed forces. She summed up the sentiment of the new system in the Philippines when she bluntly announced that, after months of patience and tolerance, she did not want to kill anyone, but nor does she accept or want to be killed and her infant democracy destroyed.

In the final analysis, the people of the Philippines will have their say on the government of President Aquino when they have the opportunity to vote on the new constitution in a nation-wide plebiscite due to be held today. If the Philippines accept the new constitution, they would in effect give the new government a new and legitimate lease on life for six more years, and President Aquino, who made all these changes possible, would stay in power for that duration. If Aquino wins this struggle, it would mean that democracy has won the battle in the Philippines in spite of all the hardships and challenges that she has been faced with up until now.

## ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

### Al Ra'i: Prospects for an Arab summit

MANY of those who did not want the Islamic summit have been disappointed when the meeting took place. The great number of leaders attending proved that the summit was a success. Perhaps the most important aspect about the summit was that it has now paved the way for an Arab meeting at the highest level, and despite the absence of Libya from the Islamic summit in Kuwait everything can be done to prepare for an Arab meeting for the sake of planning joint action. The Arab foreign ministers have already met in Kuwait to pave the way for the Arab summit meeting and most importantly their talks and the subjects discussed at the Islamic parley in Kuwait focused mostly on issues of concern to the Arab Nation. The Arab ministers and the Islamic leaders both studied in depth the Iran-Iraq war and means of ending the conflict between the two Muslim neighbours, the situation in Lebanon and ways for stopping the civil strife and ending Amal's siege of refugee camps and the situation in the occupied Arab lands under Israeli rule and ways for extending help to the Palestinian people to regain their rights. These talks and the contents of the conference's final communiqué both indicate a preliminary step that could pave the way for holding an Arab summit meeting. We are confident that the Arab League in cooperation with Saudi Arabia, which will host the Arab summit, will carry out the next step for convening the Arab summit.

### Al Dustour: Europe must assume role

IN his address before the Council of Europe on Thursday, Prince Hassan reiterated that continued Israeli occupation of Arab land is bound to threaten Arab identity not only in Palestine but also in lands that neighbour the occupied territory. For this reason, and acting in a bid to safeguard Arab rights and interests, Jordan has embarked on implementing a five-year development plan for the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. This plan, Prince Hassan said, is a temporary measure and can by no means serve as a substitute for freedom and a lasting peace. It is, he said, a means of meeting the immediate needs of the Arab people under Israeli rule and to prevent forced emigration from Arab territory. Needless to say that Europe has a major role to play in this respect, and European countries can find a proper formula for peace. At the same time, Prince Hassan pointed out that Jordan has a unique role in the peace making process in view of its geographical location, its close ties with Europe and its unshakable links with the people of the occupied Arab territory. Jordan as Prince Hassan noted, shoulders a heavy burden in this regard and continues to extend all possible assistance to the Arab inhabitants under Israeli occupation.

### Sawt Al Shaab: Hope for better relations

SIDE Arab meetings which were held during the Islamic summit conference in Kuwait are bound to bear good fruit because they were based on the need to achieve solidarity among Arab countries and aimed at reaching a joint strategy with regard to the common threats and challenges. King Hussein has no doubt played a key role in fusing this harmony and launching a dialogue among the various Arab leaders. He spared no effort during the Kuwait conference in working towards the achievement of consensus on the need of tackling pressing issues. The Kuwait conference was not only a chance for a meeting by Muslim leaders but rather an opportunity for the Arab heads of state to hold fruitful consultations on issues of concern to their nation. These leaders lost no moment in discussing the Gulf conflict that has been raging for more than six years, the Palestine problem and Israel's continued occupation of Arab territory, and the situation in Lebanon which is a source of concern to all Arabs and Muslims alike. King Hussein seized the opportunity of the Islamic conference to do what he can for serving Arab causes, and he has no doubt succeeded in bringing Arab leaders to face-to-face meetings, thus breaking the ice paving the way for further successful and fruitful efforts.

## Economic recession: Many prescriptions but no proper diagnosis

By Dr. Waleed Sa'di

LAST Tuesday evening, I had the good fortune of attending the address by Dr. Khalil Al Salem which he delivered to the World Affairs Council on the economic crisis in Jordan. Dr. Salem is too well known to introduce to the reader. As we say in Arabic, he is "more famous than fire on a pole." His credentials are massive and his intellect is truly outstanding. And what made his dardasha (chat) as he called his lecture even more enjoyable is his style of oration which was penetrating and clever.

The theme of Dr. Salem's address was the recession in Jordan and what to do about it. He prefaced his remarks by saying, and correctly so, that it is no longer tenable to blame our domestic economic ailments on international recession because there is no more international recession. In other words, he cautioned, we in Jordan must seek redress in our economic crisis by observing more self-reliance albeit there are outside factors like the Iran-Iraq war and the situations in the occupied territories and Lebanon which continue to affect negatively our overall economic development.

But as I listened to our learned economic expert making his comments to the limited audience, I got the distinct impression that he was offering mere prescriptions to redress an over-heated economy and less remedies to a confirmed recession. His prescription of the need to tighten our belts across the board, conserve our energy, spend less here and there, travel less, import less and even eat less, especially imported food stuffs are prescriptions against heated economy which we don't have. The catch word in his remarks was the word "less," less of everything except an agriculture and a fund to help the poor and needy.

At the beginning of his comments, Dr. Salem characterised the energy issue as among the major problems confronting the Jordanian economy and, as I understood him to suggest, has contributed fundamentally to the recession which is inflicting the national Jordanian economy. He reminded his audience that Jordan's energy bill was too high and was eating up our foreign reserves. But in correctly highlighting this problem and drain on Jordan's hard currencies, he failed to offer parallel answers or suggest pragmatic panacea. Surely it is not enough to point the finger to the energy problem if such diagnosis is not coupled by suggestions as to how we may redress it. Although a layman for all intents and purposes, nevertheless I have sufficient academic background in macro-economics to make me wonder about the true nature and dimension of this so-called energy crisis. I could not help asking myself the question: What would Dr. Salem have us do in this context? Is he suggesting that we are driving too much and over-heating our homes? Surely one cannot claim that Jordanians are extravagant with their driving habits. Where do Jordanians who are fortunate enough to own cars go anyway? On our one-day weekends we spend our time visiting one another either to express our condolences or extend our heartfelt congratulations. Some of us manage to visit the Jordan Valley in the winter and the northern

part of the country in the summer. Even fewer of us respond to the campaign for the augmentation of our internal tourism and drive all the way to Agaba to help fill our empty hotels. Without driving around, surely our life style would become dreary and the local economy which is dependent on such driving would suffer. As for our heating bill, most of our citizens heat up their homes with the most economical means of heating: Aladdin kerosene heater. For the few of us who have central heating system, I suspect that the thermometer is kept at the lowest bearable degree. In retrospect and viewed against this backdrop, one cannot just claim that our fuel bill is too high. If one is concerned about our hard currency I respectfully submit that foreign reserves are not intended to be put on a pedestal for worship. They are intended to provide us with the bare necessities of life and heating is by no means a luxury. We may be able nevertheless to rationalise the use of energy by providing our people with viable alternatives such as solar and wind energies. It would be utter nonsense to accomplish the objective of rationalisation by limiting imports of fuel or by augmenting the price tag for our people. If we pursue such policies only our poor would suffer as our rich can always pay the necessary price with minimum hardship. And since we have unemployment and therefore some poverty, we would be adding injury to injury if we hike the price of energy or limit its availability. It would be prudent to remind ourselves as well that the price of energy in Jordan is already high and higher than international prices. When the price of oil went down, Jordan was one of the very few countries which did not reciprocate this international decline by lowering the domestic prices.

More viable was Dr. Salem's comments about our bill for jewelry which he told us reached the phenomenal price of some 60 million dinars in 1985. Granted that this dispensation of foreign currency is unwise and unwarranted, but I would like him to find a formula for us to convince our ladies that jewelry is not a necessity for a nation in a state of war. Again wanting in Dr. Salem's reference to this problem are the proposed remedies. Our women are very resourceful in obtaining their jewelry and are notorious for their improvisation in beating the system which seeks to keep them away from their loved and cherished goods. If we just close our national doors in the face of jewelry, next thing you know black market flourishes in our midst. If black market can be fought off, then our ladies would find a way or an excuse to accompany their husbands on their overseas trips to satisfy their lust for jewelry. If we clamp down on the travel of our citizens to the outside and make the bid tighter on foreign sojourns, we would in effect change the character of this country from an open and free society to a closed country indistinguishable from other countries which we dread to live in. In the final analysis, such police tactics are self-defeating and the final price becomes even more compounded by them.

Even less viable was Dr. Salem's comments about auto, and

computer imports. His remarks, I must admit caused consternation in my mind and soul. Dr. Salem must be aware that in Jordan we still do not have an adequate or even anything approaching adequate public transportation system. He knows only too well that most of us have no choice between driving our cars or taking a public transportation means to go to work or to offer our sympathies or congratulations. Accordingly viewed in this light, one cannot just say that cars are luxury items. Already the customs on cars are very high and the state treasury is accumulating much earning from customs on our cars. True we (are) still losing our hard currency; but again our foreign reserves are there to alleviate a structural problem in our economy which is the lack of a functional public transportation system.

Much more difficult to accept is Dr. Salem's critique against our open and liberal policy on the importation of computers. Surely he understands that computers are modern means for sophisticated learning in this technological age. We in the Arab World are considered among the most backward peoples of the world and if we follow the foot steps prescribed to us by Dr. Salem and deprive our children and adults this modern machinery, certainly the gap between us and other civilisations and cultures would broaden. It must dawn on us by now, as it had on other countries, that the computer is not a luxury item but rather a vital educational element which has acquired the status of being a sine qua non for the elevation of educational systems world-wide with a view to bridge the gap or at least narrow the gap between the developed and developing countries. If we forsake new high technology no matter what the price tag is, we would be in effect sentencing ourselves to permanent backwardness. Surely the price tag on backwardness is high and much higher than the saving that we seem to be obsessed with realising.

Let the reader interpret my remarks as 100 per cent critique of everything Dr. Salem had said in his lecture to us on January 27, I would like to emphasise that nothing could be more wrong. There were indeed many salient points which Dr. Salem has made that evening with which no man in his right mind would quarrel with. I merely picked two or three items with which I found myself in disagreement with the distinguished lecturer. His lecture in fact can be viewed as a spring board for further discussions and deliberations. There were some points which needed further elaborations, such as the exchange rate of the dinar, our taxation policy, the policy of transforming state establishments into private ones and the policy of mergers between companies. But with all fairness to Dr. Salem, he spoke his mind with integrity and courage. For this we are most grateful. We are likewise even more gratified to him for starting a debate among men of good will on a subject which is affecting all of us, rich and poor. All of us who had heard Dr. Salem speak up would very much like him to chair a seminar on the same subject to further deliberate the important issues he was wise enough to raise.

## Filipinos vote on new constitution amid turmoil

By Arthur Spiegelman

Reuters

MANILA — As their country struggles on amid continuing turmoil, millions of Filipinos vote on Feb. 2 on a new constitution whose preamble promises them unity, peace, stability and even love.

In the last 10 days, troops shot 15 demonstrators dead before the presidential palace, 400 rebel soldiers tried to seize four military camps, 190 soldiers captured a television station, 100 junior officers confronted the armed forces chief, ousted President Ferdinand Marcos rented a plane to fly home from exile and President Corason Aquino vowed to get tough.

The Philippines is suffering its most tense time since an almost bloodless "revolution" nearly a year ago ousted Marcos and installed an idealistic but politically inexperienced former housewife

as president in one of the world's most fractious countries.

In her 11 months in office, Aquino has remained popular with millions of Filipinos although she has often been learning on the job rather than ruling. She is banking on that popularity to spell victory for the constitution.

The vote has effectively become a one-candidate presidential election — as much a referendum on her rule than a vote for a constitution. Most analysts say Aquino will have to resign if the charter is defeated.

The army, whose revolt late last February toppled Marcos after three years at turmoil, is split into several factions. Last week's rebellion, according to diplomats, severely eroded the authority of armed forces chief Fidel Ramos. Many in the army oppose the constitution.

Until the revolt, which the government says was staged by pro-

Marcos elements, few Filipinos questioned Ramos' ability to maintain control. He said his mission was to keep the army out of politics. Now many wonder whether he can.

As 25 million Filipinos over the age of 18 prepare to vote on the wordy new constitution that restores popularly elected government and civil rights, Manila has become a 24-hour-a-day "rumor mill."

The rumors have "different components" — but the theme is always the same: A coup will be staged to stop Monday's vote and therefore deny Aquino the six year term in office the charter grants her.

Driving out to the city's main military camps to count the number of generals being chauffeured in fear of death or night crisis sessions has become routine for hundreds of foreign reporters who descended on the country in the past week.

Many political analysts see the events of the past 10 days as destabilising enough to produce a national nervous breakdown, coming as it does on the heels of months of crisis.

One opposition leader, Blas Opie, a former of the new constitution, says there is enough momentum to propel the country into civil war.

As 1,600 troops surrounded a rebel-held television station, 100 junior officers stormed into the office of General Ramos and demanded he end the revolt without violence because a Philippine soldier must never be asked to shoot a comrade.

According to one version of the confrontation being circulated among diplomats, Ramos was told bluntly by the officers, "If you use force, we join the rebels."

Diplomats say the damage last Tuesday's aborted revolt did to the army is particularly

dangerous.

The turmoil has also set the stage for a resumption of a war between Communist rebels in the countryside and the government.

The rebels have declared that their historic peace talks with the government are over, although they will wait for a 60-day ceasefire with the government to expire on February 8 before resuming hostilities. Reaching peace with the Marxist rebels and an end to the 18-year-long war was a major Aquino goal.

Aquino has ordered a purge of the army's "misguided element" saying, "I don't want to kill, but neither do I want to be killed."

Aquino believes that her 109-page constitution will bring peace to her troubled land because it legitimises her government, creates an elected national legislature, restores civil rights and allows for the election of local officials to replace largely ineffective appointees.

In short, she says it fulfills her chief goal and that of her assassinated husband, opposition leader Benigno Aquino, to restore Philippine democracy — even as it takes away the near-dictatorial powers she now enjoys but seldom uses.

A late public opinion poll conducted for the government predicts the constitution will win 71 per cent of the vote. The poll also shows that the military rebellion frightened many voters and convinced them to vote "yes" for the new charter.

Election officials expect a turnout of between 70 and 80 per cent of registered voters and a trend is expected within two or three days from the nation's 87,000 polling precincts.

Manila rumour watchers expect that until the final tally, the nation's worst case of jitters since the February revolt is certain to continue.

## Opposition apparent to Gorbachev's political, economic policies

By Andrew Rosenthal

The Associated Press

MOSCOW — The resistance to Mikhail S. Gorbachev's reform programmes is becoming increasingly apparent, and his struggle with it more public, as the Kremlin leader moves against the entrenched Soviet bureaucracy.

Gorbachev scored some victories at last week's Communist Party Central Committee meeting on personnel policy, but the committee failed to endorse some of his key proposals.

Clearly frustrated with the slow pace of change, Gorbachev closed the meeting with a challenge to the political machine he inherited from the late Leonid I. Brezhnev.

Gorbachev declared that "the party and all healthy people stand for change." And he warned: "There can be just no other path at all and this (the plenum) should mark an end to the debates on whether we need change or not."

Gorbachev's performance at the plenum reflected both his personal confidence and the strength of his political position. But he still faces a tough struggle that in coming months is expected to revolve around Gorbachev's call for revisions in the party's internal election system and for a special party meeting in the summer of 1988.

It comes as no surprise that Gorbachev is fighting the officials who rose to power under his predecessor. That is the usual case.

For Gorbachev, the necessity of creating a base to ensure his political future has been complicated by his desire to put into effect a programme of economic and social reform that is radical by Soviet standards and which threatens the Kremlin's "old guard."

The remarkable aspect, under Gorbachev, is the way in which a traditionally clandestine fight has been brought out into the open,

apparently in an effort to use publicity as a weapon against Gorbachev's opponents.

Gorbachev spoke openly and sometimes defensively about bureaucratic resistance in two speeches to the party meeting. Other Soviet officials talk readily about the difficulties he faces.

"There is certainly resistance," said Yevgeny Fozdnyakov, a senior editor at the Novosti News Agency.

Gorbachev's dilemma was summed up last week by senior Soviet commentator Alexander Bovin, who wrote an article denouncing the "Soviet socialist conservatives" opposing Gorbachev and compared his reforms

to the de-stalinisation period.

Gorbachev has made progress in his economic programmes and in loosening controls that have long stifled Soviet culture. But profound change in the economy and society is impossible without shaking up the political system. That is where Gorbachev has come up against the heaviest resistance.

He apparently had trouble simply convening last week's party meeting, which was first set for December. The meeting lasted hours longer than expected, due to prolonged debate.

In 22 months, Gorbachev's Kremlin replaced most of the nation's ministers and cemented

his control over the powerful party secretariat.

During the plenum, Gorbachev won endorsement of a proposal to hold elections for industrial managers, for bringing in new blood to the slow-changing party apparatus, and for new laws reforming the justice system and the relationship of the state to industry.

But proposals on a party conference and party elections were omitted from the resolution, and no replacement was named for ousted politburo member Dinmukhamed Knaev, indicating continued strength of the old guard within the ruling body.

Gorbachev and Ukrainian Party

chief Vladimir Shcherbitsky, another Brezhnev-era appointee, also would be dropped from the politburo. But Shcherbitsky kept his position and even delivered a speech to the gathering, signalling that Gorbachev either lacks sufficient backing to oust him or feels the time is not right for such a change.

That strength extending into the central committee, where many members are Brezhnev-era holdovers.

Committee members normally can be changed only at party congresses like the one held last February.

But congresses usually are held only in five years, and if Gor-

bachev has to wait until 1991 to make more central committee changes, his political and economic programmes could be in trouble.

Gorbachev proposed holding an interim party conference in 1988.

The plenum's final resolution made no mention of Gorbachev's proposal, but he showed the fight was still on in his closing speech.

"We consider it advisable that the politburo prepare proposals for one of the nearest plenary meetings of the central committee on the date and procedure for the holding of the conference," he said.

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## Iron picture: An indestructible art

By Lin Bing

Iron picture making, an ancient art form in China, is developing as a profitable line of business.

CHINA'S late Chairman Mao Zedong and Premier Zhou Enlai often posed for photos with foreign visitors in front of a magnificent work of art in the Anhui Room of the Great Hall of the People, China's parliament building.

The 3-metre-high picture, featuring a large pine with outstretched branches, has appeared countless times in news photos and is known to almost every Chinese. It is meant to serve as a symbol of welcome to visitors.

It looks like a traditional Chinese painting. But it is not. This masterpiece is made of iron, a unique artistic form first developed some 300 years ago by a young sheet metal craftsman named Tang Tianchi.

Tang started as a blacksmith's apprentice in Wuhu, a city on the Yangtze River. He learned basic painting techniques from a famous contemporary painter in the city. But "Tang the blacksmith" was not satisfied to paint with brush and ink. He wanted to "paint" with his hammer and use iron as his "ink." He wanted pictures that would not fade or decay.

Hammering and forging, he

created exquisite scenes from wrought iron. For large-scale or extremely intricate pictures, he fixed finished components on framed wood boards. Tang soon became famous for his iron pictures of birds, flowers, mountains, grass, ponds and waterfalls. He even hammered out the hand-writings of some renowned calligraphers.

It was no accident that Wuhu became the birthplace of this unusual art form. Local historical records show that the city has had a long history of iron smelting. And in the 17th century, more than 100 steel foundries operated there. Many blacksmiths specialised in making iron pictures.

Iron picture making has now become a profitable line of business in the city. The Wuhu Arts and Crafts Factory turns out 65,000 iron pictures a year and exports a quarter of them. More than 100 individual craftsmen are engaged in this trade.

An ordinary iron picture costs between 15 to 35 yuan (about U.S.\$4-10), and weighs around three to five kilograms. Iron pictures are available at many shops in the city.

"Iron pictures incorporate painting with handicraft and have a strong three-dimensional effect, with white and black in sharp contrast," said Chu Jinxia, 41, a quality inspector at the Wuhu



factory. Using low-carbon steel as the raw material, craftsmen create iron pictures by painstakingly forging, trimming, welding, annealing, painting, baking and framing.

A craftsman first chooses a piece of wrought iron roughly shaped like the main content of the prospective picture. He hammers the iron for thousands of times before he gets the desired shape. Then with files, bench clamps and hammers of many sizes, he trims and perfects the

forged metal piece. If it is a large work, the craftsman will forge smaller components separately and weld them together. Like hardware goods for everyday use, iron pictures must be annealed. The last stage is to have the finished work baked with black paint and then framed.

The Iron Picture Research Association, recently established in Wuhu, is charged with developing new varieties and improving old products. Researchers have already developed a painting technique that renders

iron pictures rust-proof for at least 100 years.

"The difficulty of the art lies mainly in how skillfully the artist manages to leave the dents from hammering on the finished object, and it is also the place where you can distinguish a truly good work from an awkward forgery," Chu said.

Pointing to a work of ancient beauty, she said, "One must hammer at least 30,000 times to finish it."

Madam Chu speaks with authority. Not only is she an artisan

in her own right, but she is the daughter of master craftsman Chu Yangqing, who single-handedly carried the ancient secrets of the art — begun so long ago in Wuhu by blacksmith-turned-artist Tang Tianchi — into the life of New China. Without Chu Yangqing, who died in 1974, iron pictures as a craft may not have survived except as history. China paid Chu a high tribute when it chose his work, that famous iron masterpiece entitled "Welcoming Pine," to hang in the Great Hall of the People — China features.

## Randa Habibs Corner

### Going round in circles

IT seems that my wishes will one day come true and the Second Circle, with its brand new stone wheel and water fall pyramid might just disappear one day.

The Greater Amman Municipality has announced that the Fifth and Sixth Circles will soon be "chopped" away and that traffic lights will be installed instead.

The fact is that municipality officials have discovered that roundabouts are not practical at all within the city, and thus they have decided to remove all of them. The first to go was the Wadi Sakra Circle. It was the circle with the shortest life span, as it was erected less than a year before it was removed. Second to go was the Fourth Circle. The nicest of all, and gone with it the beautiful flowers. And soon the Fifth and Sixth Circles will also go.

So, I presume that in turn will come the Third, Second and First Circles, as no circle should stay. Then, why pour so much money into the "redaction" of the Second Circle if it is also doomed to go? And also, why build this huge circle at Abdoun if the decision to remove circles from the city has already been taken?

Some things are just not logical around here. Two circles are gone, two others are on the verge of disappearing and at the same time one circle which is likely to go at some time or another is being "beautified" with a lot of money and had taste and another one has been erected only to be chopped away in the future. Do you feel lost? I don't blame you. Just wait until there are no circles to guide your way.

## Best-seller gives Turks glimpse into closed world of military

By Seva Uzman  
Reuter

ANKARA — A best-seller book has given many Turks their first glimpse into the closed world of the Turkish armed forces, but has provoked a cry of outrage from the military establishment.

"Emret Komutanım" ("Yes, sir" in English), by journalist Mehmet Ali Birand, gives details of training and promotion procedures and the benefits the military derive from their profession.

He writes that military cadets are taught to see themselves as belonging to a different class from ordinary Turks.

"The army is taboo in Turkey, it is never criticised and when the country is in trouble, it is always looked on as a saviour," Birand writes.

The book, which was published last month, has become a best-seller. It prompted a broadside from the general staff, which in an unusual statement accused the author of turning out preconceived ideas.

"The book in many chapters consists of incomplete, erroneous and out-of-date information, ideas and judgements," the statement said, adding that it failed to represent the views and ideals of the 70,000-strong officer corps.

To the ordinary Turk, the army is virtually a sacrosanct organisation, highly rated as a profession, especially among people living in poverty-stricken rural areas.

It is the largest army in NATO other than the United States, with 800,000 soldiers who play a key role in defending the alliance's southern flank.

Author Birand, in a column in the liberal daily Milliyet, for which he is the Brussels-based correspondent, welcomed the general staff statement as the possible start of a debate on the role of the armed forces.

In his preface to the book, he says it was written neither to criticise nor to praise the army.

## Soap opera blamed for suicides in Turkey

By Ragıp Erten  
Reuter

ISTANBUL — Three people have died in separate suicide leaps from high-rise buildings in Turkey over the past few days and some people blame a cliff-hanging TV soap opera about a woman contemplating a similar death.

Four others are known to have tried to kill themselves in the same way, adding fuel to the fire of debate about the serial called "It was 9 a.m.," which premiered two weeks ago.

It uses flashbacks to tell the life story of a young woman as she stands on a ledge of a high building threatening to jump if police intervene.

Turkish newspapers began to attack the programme after 16-year-old Azin Üysal jumped 150 feet to her death from a municipal building in the western town of Izmir 10 days ago.

Police arrested her history teacher, alleging she had killed herself after a love affair with him.

But the popular newspaper Sabah came out with banner headlines declaring: "The murderer of this girl is TRT (Turkish radio and television)."

Turkish television authorities deny that the incidents can be connected with the serial and say it will continue.

"If someone decides to commit suicide you cannot prevent him. World television broadcasts similar films," the Anatolian News Agency quoted TRT television chief Mehmet Turan Akkoyunlu, as saying.

But professor Yildirim Aktina, head of Turkey's largest psychiatric institute, said the drama virtually advertises how someone about to leap to his or her death can grab the attention of hundreds of people waiting below.

"Those who attempt to kill themselves always look for an audience, as they are mainly after attention, and the TV serial sets an example for them," he told Reuters.

"Ways of committing suicide could spread like a fashion, there are examples of this in medical history."

Two weeks ago, a young woman and a 78-year-old man jumped to their deaths from the fourth and second floors of buildings in Istanbul.

A week ago, three people in Istanbul and two schoolgirls in the southern town of Adana were prevented from killing themselves in a similar manner.

Aktina said he felt the TV people should have consulted psychiatrists before airing such a serial.

Compared with the world at large, suicide is not widespread in Turkey, he said.

According to the state statistics institute, the number of people who killed themselves dropped to 1,187 in 1985 from 1,273 in 1984.

Of these, 150 people in 1984 and 111 in 1985 jumped to their deaths. Most of the rest chose hanging.

Meral Oguz, who plays the heroine in "It was 9 a.m.," said the serial's message was not suicide, hinting that at the end her character decides not to jump.

## Unkind cut for U.S. wage slaves pursuing a dream

Some U.S. workers have had pay cuts recently. Anatole Kaletsky describes the pay phenomenon which enables President Reagan to ride the dollar's fall.

WASHINGTON — How can the Reagan administration remain so utterly insouciant about the falling dollar? Why do foreign investors continue to put their money into a currency whose value has been melting away at the rate of 1.5 per cent a month since early 1985? And why do the pundits who have warned for years about the dollar's imminent "crash landing" remain so shy of claiming victory for their ideas?

All of these mysteries have a common explanation — the dollar's fall has so far failed to trigger the generally expected wage-price spiral which should by now have sent the U.S. bond market into a tailspin, caused panic in the business community and ruined the Reagan administration's anti-inflationary reputation.

That none of this has happened is largely due to a little understood phenomenon: A funny thing has happened to American workers on their way to the late-1980s. They have forgotten about the ever-rising living standards and wages which were supposed to be the very stuff of the American dream.

The average U.S. worker's weekly earnings in 1986 were

\$303, which is 8.5 per cent lower in real terms than the \$120 recorded in 1970. In fact, American wage and salary earners have enjoyed no real improvement in living standards for nearly 20 years now — a misfortune which can be found in almost no other country outside Africa and Latin America. Most of the fall in U.S. earnings occurred from 1979 to 1982, during which period rapid inflation overtook the rate of pay increases each year. But, in the last few years, an even more surprising story has been unfolding.

While inflation has been slowing, so has the escalation of pay settlements. As a result, there are now millions of U.S. workers for whom an annual pay cut — in actual money wages, not just in "real terms" — is a fact of life.

Indeed, the number of U.S. workers who suffered pay cuts and freezes increased significantly last year, according to the best estimates available. The Bureau of Labour Statistics calculates that 8 per cent of the workers whose pay was settled in major collective agreements during the first nine months of 1986 suffered pay cuts. A further 23 per cent

had no change in their wages at all. These figures compare with 5 per cent and 18 per cent respectively during 1985.

In the manufacturing sector, however, the vice has been screwed down much tighter: 24 per cent of workers had to accept pay cuts last year against a mere 1 per cent in 1985. A further 42 per cent managed only to hold their wages constant, leaving a mere third of the manufacturing workers to enjoy any pay increase at all.

What is responsible for this relentless belt-tightening, considering that corporate profits are at their highest level for more than a decade, that unemployment is stable and that the falling dollar is relieving the competitive pressure from abroad?

"The manufacturing industries exposed to foreign competition are only one of three types of industries where pay concessions have been most prevalent, according to Professor Dan Mitchell of the University of California. The other two are businesses which have been recently deregulated and those where non-union competitors have recently grown rapidly to challenge the positions of unionised companies.

The first group includes the many traditional industries like

steel, copper and timber where the majority of workers have suffered pay cuts of 20 per cent or more in the past year. Although the worst may now be over for the car and engineering industries, parts of these, too, remain exposed, as evidenced by pay cuts of 10 to 20 per cent at Carrier Air Conditioning and Timken Ball Bearings, and freezes on basic pay at Caterpillar Tractor and Bendix last year.

The second group includes all the domestic airlines, which have either cut wages outright or introduced two-tier pay scales under which new recruits earn far less than established employees. It also covers the trucking companies and Greyhound Bus Lines, which has recently been sold to a non-union operator after the unions resisted a management demand for pay cuts of at least 15 per cent.

The third group is the most varied and the one which has given free-market economists most encouragement in their belief that the weakening of unions will put the U.S. economy permanently on a path of faster non-inflationary growth. In the past year, supermarket groups like Safeway and Kroger have imposed cuts and freezes on their unionised workers, arguing that they could not compete with the

expansion of non-union stores. Workers at Disneyland, too, were told their pay rates were "50 per cent above the competition."

In many cases, non-unionised competition has also been the force which has actually provoked the change in traditional trading industries and deregulated businesses. For example, Weyerhaeuser, the forest products company, persuaded 7,000 of its workers to end a six-week strike last summer and take a 20 per cent pay cut largely by pointing out that several smaller logging companies had hired non-union replacements after the industry's longstanding system of centralised collective bargaining began to break up in 1983. Many of the pay cuts in the transport industries have been influenced by the non-union competitors, like Mr. Frank Lorenzo's rapidly growing Texas Air empire.

The competition between unionised and non-unionised companies is probably the best explanation for the continuing downward pressure on pay settlements in much of the U.S. economy. It is also a reason for taking some of the more extreme claims about disinflation in the U.S. economy with a pinch of salt.

Little is known in detail about the pay deals granted to the 80

per cent of U.S. workers who are not covered by collective bargaining. But it may be dangerous to take too much anti-inflationary comfort from BLS statistics on major collective bargains, which cover only 18 per cent of the U.S. private sector's employees and are heavily weighted towards precisely those industries which are under the fiercest pressure from foreign and non-union competition.

In what may be a worrying sign of the inflationary clouds on the horizon, the aggregate figures on U.S. earnings show that non-union workers have been enjoying consistently bigger pay rises than their unionised rivals in every year since 1982. In the past two years the gap has averaged 1.7 per cent annually, with non-union employees receiving average pay rises of 3.5 per cent in the past 12 months.

Pay rises of 5 per cent or more are still the norm in many of the profitable service industries, such as finance, as well as in the unionised utilities and state and local governments. It is anybody's guess how long the austerity in the unionised economy can continue to compensate for the inflationary pressures in the non-unionised sectors — Financial Times feature.

## Israel campaigns to bring back 'wandering Israelis'

By Paul Taylor  
Reuter

TEL AVIV — In growing numbers, the children and grandchildren of the Zionists of the Jewish state are thinking of leaving Israel.

Frustrated by low living standards, high taxes and mundane jobs, one in five Israelis under 26 say they are contemplating emigration, according to a recent survey by the ministry of immigration absorption.

Already an estimated 340,000 Israelis live abroad — about nine per cent of Israel's Jewish population. The figures have fuelled an anguished debate in a society founded on Jewish immigration. "When we built this state, we thought we had got rid of the wandering Jew," says Yossi Kukic, adviser on emigration to the immigration minister. "Now we have the wandering Israeli."

Kukic is in charge of a programme with a million-dollar annual budget to discourage emigration and lure emigrants

back by a mixture of propaganda and material incentives.

Last year, emigrants outnumbered new immigrants for the third time in Israel's history. About 13,000 people left the country while only 9,500 came to settle here.

Roughly half of all Israeli emigrants live in the United States, drawn by the prospect of fat salaries, consumer affluence and a more easy-going lifestyle.

But experts on emigration say the American dream has not entirely supplanted the Zionist dream in the minds of Israeli emigrants.

Only a small minority of emigrants say they are motivated by fear of Arab-Israeli war, security worries or exasperation with a month's annual army reserve duty, the survey claims.

When Egypt and Syria fought Israel in 1973, many Israelis regarded as emigrants crammed airports around the world to rush to the battlefield.

"I think many of us just want a breather from the intensity of

Israeli life. It wears you down — the security situation, military service, taxes, struggling to make a living," said Dov, 33, a computer scientist who recently left for London.

U.S. consular officials say it is hard to draw a profile of the typical Israeli emigrant since most do not apply for American immigrant visas before leaving Israel.

"People who want to emigrate are not going to tell you. They'll say they're just going on a business trip or something," one official said.

"In a lot of cases I think it is just a matter of economics. Educated young men in their late 20s to early 40s find they can't make ends meet," he said.

The average Israeli wage is \$700 a month and many engineers, doctors and accountants make little more than \$12,000 a year from their main job when they could be earning at least \$60,000 a year in the United States.

Civil servants and army officers

earn a pittance, and many Israelis take a second job or work in the black economy.

To make the gap even worse, Israelis have been paying up to 60 per cent of their salaries in income tax. High customs and sales taxes mean a small family car that costs around \$15,000 and a colour television \$1,200.

"How do you make a small fortune in Israel?" a popular joke asks. The answer is: "Start with a large one."

New immigrants to Israel are allowed to buy a car and household electrical goods tax-free for a limited period and qualify for a subsidised mortgage.

As an incentive to immigrate the authorities now allow long-term emigrants to bring the electrical appliances duty free.

"If they gave those benefits instead to Israeli kids when they finish the army there would be no emigration problem," said Shmuel Dubinsky, an immigrant from Canada.

Often emigrants join a relative

or friends in the United States, where they live in closely-knit communities, remote from their American neighbours and from the U.S. Jewish community, which has mixed feelings about them.

While Israel tries to stem the "brain drain," the survey shows many Israelis are becoming more tolerant of emigrants and no longer see them as traitors.

"The fact is that today we have many educated, interested young men and women who want to see somewhere else and try out the opportunities. In a way it's normal," Shokeid said.

But Yossi Kukic is determined to fight the normalisation of emigration.

"People have to be told that emigration is not legitimate," he said. "This is not a normal country in a normal situation."

The immigration ministry has tried to recruit emigrants at Israeli high-technology fairs in the United States and paid scientists a year's salary tax-free to

return.

"Israel is the only state in the world where the government is taking such action to bring emigrants back," Kukic said.

He said the results had been mixed and the only long-term remedy was to make Israel more economically attractive for young skilled professionals.

Shokeid says the problem is not that Israel is losing its magnetism for Jews. Four-fifths of world Jews have never lived in Israel anyway and most immigrants came here out of necessity rather than idealism, he says.

"Emigration is not new. Don't forget most of Ben Gurion's and Golda Meir's generation turned round and went back to Europe or the United States," he said.

Statistics show most Jews fleeing the Soviet Union and Iran chose the U.S. over Israel. When the Jewish agency tried to recruit 900 Iranian Jews currently waiting in Vienna for U.S. visas, only five agreed to try life in Israel.

## London's boat people can have hard time staying afloat

By Sandra Malar  
Reuter

LONDON — "We'll be either upstairs or downstairs. It depends on the tide," Pamela Chapman said as she gave directions to her home.

She is one of the eccentric Londoners who opted out of the scramble for property on land and chose instead to live on the tide-swept Thames river which divides the city.

"You've got to be the sort of person who's pretty outgoing to live in a houseboat," Charles Edwards of Roy Brooks estate agents in fashionable Chelsea told Reuters. "I don't think it would suit the normal run-of-the-mill person."

"I don't think everybody likes the idea of living on water."

Although it's tied down, you can feel the rock," he added.

But even those who think they can handle the rock should think hard before buying a houseboat, the Residential Boat Owners Association cautions.

"You might find that you own the boat but are not allowed to live on it due to local regulations or bylaws," it warns in a booklet called Living Afloat.

"You may move all your valuable and treasured possessions aboard just before the boat sinks, explodes or catches fire, destroying everything," it adds.

"Worse still, the boat might be badly built or maintained and you might get injured or killed."

Despite these hazards, houseboats have become increasingly popular and trendy in London, and more and more people are

choosing to live in a boat on the Thames or on London's Grand Union Canal instead of in a flat or house.

The association estimates that at least 15,000 people live afloat in Britain, with about 500 houseboats in London and requests for information come in all the time.

There is one main catch, however — finance.

"You have to buy it with cash if you don't want a loan at a very high interest," Edwards said. "You can't get a mortgage like you would on a house and not many people have thousands of pounds cash."

Prices vary widely according to the size, the location of mooring, whether the boat is mobile or not and the type of boat — which ranges from purpose-built houseboats and Dutch barges to World

War II landing-craft and gunboats.

They sometimes sell for a few hundred pounds although in Chelsea harbour in one of London's most sought-after districts a houseboat costs an average of \$80,000.

For 54,000 sterling, one can get a 48-foot, two-bedroom boat, with a well-fitted kitchen — including washing machine, fridge-freezer, electric oven and hob — a sun deck and mooring within two minutes walk of Chelsea's famous Kings Road.

As Edwards remarked: "Houseboats are good value. You would not find a two-bedroom flat in Chelsea for 54,000 sterling (\$80,000); 100,000 (\$148,000) would be more like it."

One problem with houseboats,

however, is that they depreciate instead of increasing in value so they are not a good investment.

Some houseboats are connected to mains water, electricity, gas, sewerage and telephone but others have few amenities.

Living Afloat warns: "When houseboaters are closely watching TV many boat-dwellers will be outside changing gas bottles, unfreezing water pipes, starting up engines and generators and emptying loos."

The association, which counts some 500 member boats, was created 25 years ago and has been fighting ever since for boat dwellers' rights.

Their main problem is that unlike flat and homeowners, they have no security of tenure on moorings and are therefore at the mercy of the owner of the river

bank.

"From a legal point of view a boat is seen purely as a possession such as a washing-machine instead of a home," Edward Burrell, a Thames representative of the association who has lived on a boat for 12 years, told Reuters.

The result is that mooring owners can, and have been known to, ask boatpeople to leave at any time, sometimes giving only a few days' notice.

But those lucky enough to get secure moorings say there is no match for living on the river, especially since a government drive to clean up the Thames began in the late 1960s.

The time is past when the Thames was so dirty that the smell prevented parliament from holding sessions and falling into it was certain death.



## Stars and Stripes stretches lead in America's Cup final

**FREMANTLE, Australia (AP)** — Dennis Conner took another step toward regaining the America's Cup Sunday by guiding Stars and Stripes to a provisional victory of 1 minute, 10 seconds over Kookaburra III. If the result is made official, it will give Conner a 2-0 lead in the best-of-seven finals.

In September 1983, while skipper of the yacht Liberty, he was beaten by Australia II at Newport, Rhode Island — after leading 3-1 — to become the first U.S. skipper to lose the cup since competition started in 1851.

Although Stars and Stripes crossed the line first, the outcome of Sunday's race will be decided by an international protest jury later Sunday. Kookaburra III raised the red protest flag before the race started. The Aussie yacht, skippered by Iain Murray, had to alter its course in order to avoid striking Stars and Stripes.

The wind was whipping at 22 knots from the south-southwest Sunday, an extreme change from the calm weather Saturday, when the U.S. challenger crushed Kookaburra III by 1:41 in calm seas.

On Sunday, Aussie helmsman Peter Gilmour started in the favoured windward position after some close circling and manoeuvring during the pre-start.

Sunday's first leg was much closer than Saturday. Once again, however, Stars and Stripes was in front rounding the first buoy for the downwind run. The margin was 12 seconds.

The Americans were on the left side and the Aussies on the right at the start. After 14 minutes,

nearly halfway through the 3 1/4-mile windward beat, Kookaburra III turned to the right onto port tack.

Stars and Stripes did the same about 20 seconds later and appeared to take over the lead as a result of the manoeuvring. In the last half of the leg, the boats tacked several times but Kookaburra III couldn't move in front.

It was close enough, though, to try and block the wind into Conner's spinnaker on the second leg.

But Kookaburra III wasn't that close at the end of the downwind run and trailed by 29 seconds.

The Aussie boat was reputed to be strong downwind. But on Saturday, it lost both downwind legs and a reach that turned into a run because of shifting winds.

Just past the halfway point of the second leg Sunday, Stars and Stripes jibed away from Kookaburra III, preventing it from keeping the wind from reaching the U.S. yacht.

Conner's yacht is considered better to windward and that was the direction of the third leg. But that was Kookaburra III's best leg Saturday when it cut Stars and Stripes' lead from 1:20 to 41 seconds.

It definitely wasn't on Sunday. Stars and Stripes, supposedly best suited for heavy weather,

charged through the moderate seas to a 1:14 advantage at the third mark.

Kookaburra III, less upright than its opponent throughout the leg, tacked several times, but the 44-year-old Conner kept a loose cover on it.

The fourth leg was a reach, with the wind coming from the side. It's unusual for a boat to be overtaken in that part of a race.

Stars and Stripes continued to lead comfortably, adding eight seconds to its advantage on the fourth leg, boosting it to 1:22 halfway through the race.

The wind kept blowing consistently from the south-southwest, favouring the yacht in front.

Shifting winds, like those that prevailed Saturday, give the trailing boat a chance to find a shift and overtake the leader.

Stars and Stripes lost five seconds off its lead, falling to 1:17 after the fifth leg as Kookaburra III tried to play catchup.

But on the sixth leg the Aussies lost time and trailed by 1:23. The wind picked up to 26 knots, packing a punch that could have caused gear problems.

It didn't happen on the seventh leg as Conner was far enough in front to play it safe.

Stars and Stripes took its spinnaker down about 20 seconds before the end of the downwind run rather than keep it up until the boat reached the buoy. That avoided potential equipment problems and cost the boat some time it could afford to lose.

Still, the Americans were ahead by 1:08, a loss of 15 seconds, heading toward the finish and victory.

## SPORTS IN BRIEF

### Norwegian wins giant slalom

**RUTLAND, Vermont (AP)** — Edvin Halsnes of Norway, the defending four champion, beat older brother Jarle Halsnes by .168 seconds in a U.S. Pro Tour giant slalom ski race on Saturday. The first run of the finals was a dead heat, and the brothers were again matched gate for gate in the second run until Edvin Halsnes moved ahead by a few feet near the end of the course. Despite the loss in Saturday's finals, Jarle Halsnes retained his points and money-winning lead in the season standings. He has 145 points and \$17,650 to Edvin Halsnes' 130 points and \$16,200.

### Stewart leads Pebble Beach golf

**PEBBLE BEACH, California (AP)** — Payne Stewart battled the frustration of slow play and the annoyance of clicking cameras for a 3-under-par 69 that gave him a 2-shot lead Saturday after three rounds of the \$600,000 Pebble Beach National Pro-Am golf tournament. "I guess I'm stuck on that number," said Stewart, who now has had a 69 on each of three Monterey Peninsula courses. "But that's not to say I'm happy with it." Bernhard Langer of West Germany pitched in from 40 yards for an Eagle-3 on his way to a 68 at Cypress Point that put him in a tie for second at 209 with Sandy Lyle of Scotland and Lanny Wadkins.

### Norman, Davenport advance in squash

**ANTWERP, Belgium (R)** — New Zealanders Ross Norman, the world champion, and Stuart Davenport were convincing semifinal winners over unseeded opponents in the \$38,000 Belgian Grand Prix Squash Tournament. Defending champion Norman beat Sweden's Jonas Gornierup 9-2, 9-7, 9-1 and Davenport, the second seed, won 9-6, 9-5, 9-2 against Englishman Stuart Hailstone on Saturday night. Gornierup, winner over last year's runner-up Gawain Briers of Britain in the first round, was overrun by Norman who generously attributed the Swede's downfall to his earlier exertions. "I think Gornierup was too tired after playing two five-set matches in the previous rounds," Norman said.

## Robinson takes lead in Daytona race

**DAYTONA BEACH, Florida (AP)** — Chip Robinson, teamed with defending champions Derek Bell of England and Al Unser Jr. in a Porsche 962 GT prototype, moved out to almost a full-lap lead as the Sunday portion of the Daytona 24-hours sports car endurance race began.

Still solidly in the hunt nine hours into the race at Daytona International Speedway was the Porsche of A.J. Foyt, Al Unser and Danny Sullivan.

The younger Unser, an Indy-car star, was at the wheel of his team's car when it beat Sullivan out onto the 3.56-mile (5.72-kilometre), 11-turn circuit following routine pit stops on lap 166, about 5 1/2 hours into the grueling race.

Sullivan had inherited the lead from the 962 of West Germans Jochen Mass and Klaus Ludwig and American Bruce Leven during the fifth hour.

In the next 30 minutes, Unser and Sullivan traded the lead once and kept America's only major 24-hour event unusually close.

The Foyt entry was slowed by brake problems, costing the team two laps. But, with the four-time Indianapolis 500 winner at the wheel in the ninth hour of the race, they made up both of the lost laps, running right at the end

of the lead lap. The leaders completed 280 laps in the first nine hours of the race, averaging 112.229 mph (180.576 kph).

Al Holbert, the owner of the second-place car, the defending IMSA Camel GT champion and, along with the younger Unser and Bell, the defending champion in this race, said that despite the lead, his car was at a disadvantage to the Foyt car because this is running a somewhat smaller engine.

"We're all right, it's just slow," Holbert said. "When you get in traffic, you can't squeeze through it like the other cars. Derek (Bell) says it won't pull the skin off rice pudding."

Bell, about to get back in the car, said, "I didn't really believe we'd be there (first) until mid-morning. We're driving an under-powered car. But the other guys are running a very fast pace and running into a lot of problems."

The Leven car, which mass put on the pole position in qualifying Thursday, led most of the first five hours before being sent for a long stay in the pits by a collision with a slower car.

Ludwig was at the wheel with a two-lap lead over Sullivan when he attempted a routine pass of a group of slower cars on the bank-

ed portion of the Daytona speedway. But one of the slower cars slid up the banking and whacked Ludwig, badly damaging the suspension and underside of the car.

"I was taking the high line on the banking, passing a couple cars, and one of idiots came up and hit me in the rear," former Lemans winner Ludwig said. "I had nowhere to go."

The crew, working frantically, finally sent the Porsche back onto the track 25 laps behind. Two laps later, it was retired from the race because of "a bad vibration."

The Chevrolet Corvette GTP of Sarel Van Der Merwe of South Africa and Doc Bundy overcame some early suspension problems to move up to third, four laps behind the leader at the end of eight hours. But, as midnight approached, the car developed an engine problem and went into the pits and never returned.

The Corvette, acknowledged as a very fast car, never before has lasted more than seven hours in a long distance event.

Third through sixth places at 12:30 a.m. (1730 GMT) were held by four more of the powerful and dominant Porsche 962s.

Fourth was the car shared by Rob Dyson, Price Cobb and Australian Vern Schuppan.

## Arsenal, Everton advance to fifth round

**LONDON (AP)** — English League leader Arsenal romped into the fifth round of the F.A. (Football Association) Cup by whipping Second Division Plymouth Argyle 6-1.

Another favourite, Everton, stayed on course for a fourth consecutive appearance in the final by winning 1-0 at Second Division Bradford City, while star-studded Manchester United tumbled out of the competition when it was beaten 1-0 at home by Coventry City on Saturday.

Tottenham Hotspur, another leading contender for the cup, breezed past Second Division rival Crystal Palace 4-1, but Luton Town, which knocked holder Liverpool out of the competition in the previous round, needed a late penalty to salvage a 1-1 draw against Queens Park Rangers.

The only upset in the English Cup competition was a 1-0 victory by Third Division Wigan Athletic

over highly-placed First Division Norwich City.

The biggest upset of the day was in Scotland, where big-spending Glasgow Rangers lost 0-1 at home to Hamilton Academical — bottom club in the Premier Division standings — in the third round of the Scottish Cup.

After Rangers' English international goalkeeper Chris Woods had set a British record for keeping a clean sheet for 1,156 minutes in 13 games, he was beaten by Hamilton's Adrian Spott.

Another England international, Arsenal fullback Viv Anderson, scored twice in his team's drubbing of Plymouth. Arsenal's other goals came from Charlie Nicholas, Niall Quinn, Paul Davis and David Rocastle.

Ian Snodin, signed by Everton for £ 840,000 (\$1.26 million) a month ago, repaid a slice of the transfer fee by heading the only goal at Bradford.

Winger in 1984, Everton has been runner-up in the competition for the last two seasons. Keith Houchen, who scored a

famous goal to knock Arsenal out of the competition two years ago when he was a York City player, silenced Manchester United's vast army of fans by firing Coventry's winner at Old Trafford.

Wigan's hero against Norwich was Paul Jewell, although his shot was deflected home off Norwich defender Ian Butterworth.

Clive Allen, the First Division's leading scorer, bagged his 30th goal of the season when he converted a penalty for Tottenham in its triumph over Palace at White Hart Lane.

The home side's other scores came from Gary Mabbutt, Belgian international Nico Claessen and an own goal by former Tottenham defender Gary O'Keilly.

Luton and Queens Park Rangers, two sides which have artificial surfaces, cancelled each other out by scoring a penalty apiece at Kenilworth Road, England international Terry Fenwick fired Rangers ahead seven minutes from time, but Mick Harford levelled also from the spot and the two teams will have to replay on the Rangers' plastic pitch.

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## Canada, Ivory Coast win Davis Cup ties

**CARACAS, Venezuela (Agencies)** — Glenn Michibata and Mark Greenan defeated Venezuela's Inaki Calvo and Valerio Boccitto in doubles Saturday to give Canada an unbeatable 3-0 lead in the first round of the American Zone Davis Cup tennis competition.

Michibata teamed with Greenan to defeat Calvo and Boccitto 6-8, 6-3, 6-2, 6-4.

On Friday, Canada's Martin Wostenholme defeated Carlos Claverie and Michibata beat Nicolas Pereira in singles matches.

Although Sunday's "reverse" singles matches remain, Canada has clinched the best-of-five matches competition and advanced to the second round, which will be played March 13-15. Canada will meet Peru in the next round.

Greenan, ranked 283rd in world on the Hewlett-Packard ATP computer, was the decisive player in the doubles match. Awd Venezuelans sportscasters said the 20-year-old Canadian wielded "a baseball bat, not a racket."

Calvo and Boccitto got off to a good start but were no match for Greenan's big serves — they never managed to break his service.

— or Michibata's accuracy with his ground strokes.

On Sunday, Michibata, ranked 189th in singles and 89th in doubles, will play Claverie, while Wostenholme, ranked 189th, will face Pereira.

Meanwhile in Abidjan, Ivory Coast beat Tunisia 3-0 in the first round of Davis Cup Africa Zone competition Saturday, winning the doubles 6-2, 6-4, 1-6, 7-5.

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The Philippines Embassy wishes to announce that the National College Entrance Examination, a pre-requisite for admission to Philippine colleges and universities, will be given in English at the Embassy on 27 February 1987, instead of 27 March as previously announced. Deadline for submission of applications is 10 February 1987. Those qualified to take the NCEE include students whose visa applications are being held pending their passing the NCEE.

For further information, interested parties may write to or call at the Philippine Embassy. Its P.O. Box is 825287 and its telephone numbers are 645-161 and 643-421.

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Performances 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30

### Cinema PLAZA

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THE SPY WHO LOVES ME

Performances 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30

### Cinema RAGHADAN

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POLICE STORY

Performances 12:15, 3:00, 5:40, 9:45



# Weekly Financial Report

By Foad Batshon

The following report summarises trading activities in Amman of major European and Arab currencies as well as gold prices. The writer is a foreign exchange dealer at the Arab Finance Corporation (merged with Halim Saliti and Sons Co.)

AMMAN — Last week, the U.S. dollar opened weak and continued to slide to record lows in ten years against the Deutsche mark (DM), the Swiss Franc (SF) and the Japanese yen.

On Friday the dollar moved higher on news that the East Europeans were buying huge amounts of dollars, expecting that the U.S. economic figures that were due to be released that day would be in favour of the dollar.

The trade balance figure released late on Friday was -10.7 down from -18.2 for the American economy, and on that news prompted the dealers to begin covering their short positions on the dollar.

The dollar traded against the Jordanian dinar (JD) between 0.3250 to 0.3380.

In the local market, the demand for the U.S. dollar was extremely high, because many banks and financial companies wanted to cover their short positions on the dollar / JD.

Charts indicate that the dollar could move higher in the beginning of this week but by the mid week it will drop back to test the last week's lows. The expected

ranges for this week are to be 0.3300 to 0.3400.

## Trading in European currencies

The pound sterling moved higher on news that the oil prices will continue to score new highs internationally. The sterling traded between 0.5150 to 0.5350.

The DM, SF and yen moved higher in the beginning of last week, but slipped to the week lows on the news of the American economic figures released on Friday.

The DM traded between 0.181 to 0.190, the SF between 0.2150 to 0.2250.

## Trading in world metals

Profit-taking on the metals moved them to new lows this year and towards their support levels on the charts.

Gold prices moved lower from \$417 an ounce to \$397 an ounce and closed at \$404 an ounce. Silver also fell from \$5.72 an ounce to \$5.43 an ounce to close at \$5.52 an ounce.

Charts indicate that gold should be bought around the areas of (\$401 - \$403) an ounce.

Gold prices in Amman, based on the daily bulletin provided by the Jordan Jewellery Store, are as follows:

Gold per gramme 21 carats JD 3.550/3.850  
Gold per gramme 18 carats JD 3.150/3.400

## Jordan's output of cigarettes, alcoholic drinks fall sharply

AMMAN (J.T.) — Production of alcoholic beverages and cigarettes in Jordan declined sharply during November 1986, according to the monthly statistical bulletin issued by the Central Bank of Jordan.

The volume of production of alcoholic drinks stood at 410,600 litres in November, down about 30,000 litres from the previous month's output.

During July 1986, the production of alcoholic beverages amounted to 694,400 litres but since then the number has been decreasing steadily.

Since September 1984 the highest output has occurred in December 1984 when a total production of 1,062,900 litres were distilled. The lowest production figure during the aforementioned period was 262,400 litres during May 1986.

As for cigarettes, the production was down by about 47 million cigarettes from the October output of 303.2 million cigarettes.

Production of cigarettes averaged about 295 million a month during 1985 but last year (upto November) the average had been 277 million with highest output of 339.1 million cigarettes recorded in July.

## Key Jordanian industry keeps high production

AMMAN (J.T.) — Phosphate production increased slightly during November 1986 but potash output did not keep up the upward momentum which started mid-summer last year.

According to the Central Bank of Jordan's (CBJ) monthly statistical bulletin, phosphate production increased by 5,400 tonnes over the 524,500 tonnes of output recorded during October 1986.

The highest production since September 1984 was achieved in July 1986 when 562,600 tonnes of phosphate were mined and processed. Covering the same period, the lowest production figure was 433,200 tonnes during the month of February 1986.

Potash output declined from 117,700 tonnes in October 1986 to 99,000 tonnes in November.

The October figure was the peak output ever of potash. Since the beginning of 1986, when potash production dropped from 92,000 tonnes in January to 73,700 tonnes in February, the monthly output rose steadily except for the month of June when it fell to 76,000 tonnes before resuming a surge to over 100,000 tonnes in August.

# Arab economist anticipates less depressing, more mature growth for rich Gulf states

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — The outlook for Gulf economies is less depressing than a year ago and higher oil revenues may mean 1986 will have marked the trough of the current business cycle, a leading Bahrain-based bank said Sunday.

Gulf International Bank said in a forecast that growth would once again be positive in 1987 after a sharp decline last year.

The bank's economist Henry Azzam said economies would be boosted not only by stronger oil earnings but also by higher government expenditure and a more confident private sector.

But some sectors, especially construction and government services, would lag behind.

Mr. Azzam said: "The four-year-old recession may have reached a trough in 1986 and, pending lasting improvements in oil prices, better economic conditions could be foreseeable in the following years."

"A slower but steadier growth is anticipated till 1990, with a more mature economy emerging," he noted.

The bank's report focussed on the economies of the six Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC)

view was encouraging, with world oil consumption projected to grow at one to two per cent per year in 1988-90 assuming oil prices remained below \$20 a barrel.

Mr. Azzam forecast that the six states suffered an \$18.4 billion fall in oil revenues last year to \$32.3 billion, accentuating depressionary trends at work in the Gulf region.

He also warned that oil demand was likely to remain modest in 1987 and said OPEC states might have to cut production by five to 10 per cent with the normal easing of demand for oil in the second and third quarters.

"Prices could well move within a range of \$16 to \$20 a barrel this year," he said.

According to the bank's projections, the estimated loss in oil earnings last year ranged from 43 per cent for Qatar, 40 per cent for Oman, 39 per cent for the UAE and Kuwait, 35 per cent for Bahrain and 30 per cent for Saudi Arabia.

But if oil prices held at \$18 per barrel, 1987 revenue could rise back to a combined \$37.7 billion or 16 per cent more than last year, Mr. Azzam said.

## Expert predicts \$28 a barrel price

On world oil prices, Mr. Armand Hammer, chairman of Occidental Petroleum, last month predicted that the price of oil would "bounce back" to \$28 per barrel by the end of this year.

At a business outlook conference in Bakersfield, California, he said higher prices would be necessary "to drive up world production and meet demand," reported the Associated Press (AP) news service.

"OPEC realises the situation," Mr. Hammer said, adding that as prices improved, so would the oil business.

He said "something must be done" to reverse reductions in drilling and production in the United States which, according to him, now imports about 50 per cent of the oil it uses.

Former Energy Secretary James Schlesinger told the U.S. Senate Energy Committee that America was "today sowing the seeds of the next energy crisis."

British Petroleum (BP) chairman Sir Peter Walters also said last month in London that prospects



Henry Azzam

pects are stronger that the price of oil will stabilise this year around the current \$18 a barrel.

"All in all there is a more optimistic prospect for stabilisation," he told reporters. Another BP official told Reuters that the company saw a possible dip, perhaps to \$12, in the northern spring when demand is usually weak.

Mr. Walters said OPEC has found new confidence and recognised that oil demand was not growing fast enough to provide scope for excess output by individual members.

## Coffee producers agree to reintroduce quotas

LONDON (AP) — Coffee producers with the International Coffee Organisation (ICO) agreed Sunday on a proposal to bring back export quotas in a bid to stabilise world prices.

The proposal, which will be presented to ICO importing countries on Monday, received "massive support," said coffee producers' spokesman, Mr. Jorio Danster, of Brazil.

Mr. Danster said a few of the 50 producing countries attending the talks, which opened Wednesday, opposed the deal, while some others expressed reservations.

"The result of the meeting should be welcomed by all who want to have the coffee agreement in operation," he said, adding that he hoped importers would accept the proposal "in a positive spirit."

Export quotas, the ICO tool for regulating supplies and prices, are currently suspended. Their reintroduction now depends upon the support of leading importing countries, which include the United States, all Western European nations, Canada and Japan.

Coffee prices have fallen rapidly in recent months, with the average price, computed by the

## Arabs to boycott 26 foreign firms

DAMASCUS, Syria (AP) — The Arab Boycott of Israel Office lifted a ban Saturday on 26 foreign companies and blacklisted 32 other foreign companies for dealing with Israel.

The Damascus-based office of the Arab League also considered "terminated" the blacklisted status of 25 other foreign companies. This meant the companies involved would be allowed to do business with Arab countries after a few months' trial period.

Among the newly blacklisted companies were G.T.E. Systems Security Products, Cannon Groups Inc., Nelson Stud Welding Division, Mallinckrodt Inc., Weber Marking Systems Inc. and Technology for Communications International, all of the United States.

Mattel Inc., Sears Roebuck and De Leuw Cather were moved from the blacklist to the list of companies on probation.

The measures were decided by the weekend 56th conference of the liaison officers of the boycott office, which ended Saturday.

The boycott office monitors the activities of foreign companies, banning from the Arab World companies that have direct connections with Israel as part of a decades-old Arab economic siege against the Jewish state.

The ban is lifted when the companies submit documents proving they had stopped dealing with Israel.

Three Italian companies removed from the blacklist were: Comex SAS, Bosco Industrie Meccaniche SPA and Comex International Division (CID).

The conference also banned dealings with 26 Indian companies which make and trade in diamonds, the importation of the Japanese Nippon Telegraph and Telephone equipments.

Other companies blacklisted by the conference were: ASE EITA, Norway; A.M. Lian A.S., Norway; Unicec Manufacturers S.A., Spain; Demipex S.A., Spain; Electrolis Del Cobre, Spain; Solaky, France; Solocor "Canada" Ltd., Canada; Associated Laboratories Pvt. Ltd., India; United Mizrahi Bank Ltd., U.K.; Canadian Friends of the Hebrew University, Canada; U.K.F., Holland; Unie Van Kunstmet Fabrieken B.V., Belgium; Fruit Brokers Co. N.V., Belgium; Whitbread International Trading Ltd., U.K.; Fromatex, France; Diamex N.V., Belgium; Gruppo Italiano Vini SPA, Italy; Mallinckrodt GMBH, W. Germany;

Edper Investments Ltd., Canada; Barnes-Hind GMBH, W. Germany; Wings Tours, Egypt; Helistar Shipping Agencies Ltd., Greece; Koffler Stores Ltd., Canada; and the Liberian Firms Orleans Services Inc., Karmay Trading Ltd. and Sofina Investment Ltd.

Other foreign companies removed from the blacklist were:

Pulsar Time Europe Ltd., Holland; Aarhus Offefabrik A.S., Denmark; Dascalopoulos Aris Ltd., Greece; Albatros Maritime, Greece; Yamazaki Jitsuyo Co. Ltd., Japan; Yashima Sanyo Co. Ltd., Japan; the Daimaru Industrial Co. Ltd., Japan; the Daimaru Inc., Japan; Rupam Products, India; Philipp Holzmann Aktiengesellschaft, W. Germany; Vima Petrochemicals SRL, Italy; Italtractor Meccanica ITM, Italy; Mariella A.M.I. Italy; Alta Moda Industrie SPA, Italy; Cantieri Riva SPA Italy; Alfa Costruzioni-Meccaniche SRL, Italy; Nuova B.M.D.I. Bianchi Angelo S.N.C., Italy; Cooperheat, U.K.; Topaz Hair Cosmetics Ltd., U.K.; Uranus S.A., France; Vimco Ltd., India; Dimitris Garbis, Greece; Ionidis E. Georgis, Greece and International Forwarding Inc. Trading Co., Belgium.

## Poland devalues zloty by 20%

WARSAW (AP) — Poland devalued the zloty by 20 per cent against the U.S. dollar Sunday, the official news agency PAP reported. It will now cost 240 zlotys to buy one U.S. dollar, up from the previous official exchange rate of 200 zlotys to the dollar. The International Monetary Fund and World Bank have told Poland that a realistic exchange rate for the zloty with convertible currencies is needed to help the country's flagging export industries, PAP said. The current black market exchange rate is 860 zlotys to the dollar, according to the Polish consumer magazine Veto.

## Romanian economic woes exacerbate

BUCHAREST (R) — Bad economic news coupled with the third harsh winter has left Romania facing serious food and energy shortages, rumbling discontent and a possible crackdown by the communist authorities, diplomats said.

As snow brought most of the country to a standstill, President Nicolae Ceausescu told the Communist Party leadership on Friday that exports tumbled 11 per cent last year from 1985.

President Ceausescu, whose remarks were reported Saturday by the official Agence France Presse, blamed the disaster on sinking oil prices last year but made clear he considered Romanian trade officials were responsible.

Western diplomats said the latest economic news inflicted a serious blow at a time when there have been signs of civil discontent with his iron-clad economic line.

Clandestine leaflets have appeared in Bucharest calling for President Ceausescu's removal and there have been unconfirmed reports of strikes around the country, diplomats said.

## YOUR DAILY Horoscope from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR MONDAY, FEB. 2, 1987

GENERAL TENDENCIES: An interesting day for pioneering your avenues of expression. First, however, you need to eliminate some confusion that can keep you from increasing your happiness.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Forget that outside affair that perplexes you and go after personal aims with confidence.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Don't go chasing possible dreams. Be more practical and get ahead faster. Romance with your mate is ideal now.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Postpone an experiment you do not comprehend as yet. Try to see good friends and have fun together.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) The needling of an outsider could upset you if you allow it, so get in, to career matters.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Forget that boring work and get into new interests. Accept newcomers who are quite brilliant and brighten your life.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Even though you want to run off and play, it is wiser to be serious and get practical affairs handled.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Don't let a comment by a family tie upset you. Be with progressive individuals who can help you gain your aims.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Be more enthused at the activities you have planned for the day and get very good results.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Try to modernize your capabilities so that you can be more successful in dealing with the public.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Give more thought and attention to your home. Entertain friends who are inspiring.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) A fine day for you to make new arrangements and find new methods to make your life more productive.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Find the right way to add to your abundance at this time. Be very careful in motion.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will be fascinated by just about everything, so be sure to give a fine education that will also teach the appreciation of proven standards. Also teach the importance of perseverance. One who will be very popular and have a strong marriage.

## THE Daily Crossword by James R. Burns

ACROSS

- Earl wore one
- Hardens
- Web prophet
- Root edge
- Gem unit of weight
- Love freshness
- Outing
- Shade of blue
- Across Raines
- Settle
- Relations
- Tribe
- Waste out
- Pleasers
- Vinegarish
- de France
- Helped with
- Characteristic
- Anaxias
- Cook
- Dequise sign
- Piglike
- Walt humming
- Additional
- Fustian
- Emphasizes
- Mrs. King
- Male effort
- Choose
- Work respite
- Succesor
- La Scala site
- Impulse
- Vicinity
- Parish estate
- Builder
- Post Ogden
- Fix in place
- Hog feed

DOWN

- Cowboy
- Pol source
- Radar to go
- Meat
- Passive
- Movie explainer
- Has need of
- Brews
- Holy dread
- Leafy light
- roll canteen
- Katie's
- Small table
- Pastrybinder
- Unhappily
- Land moral support
- Territory
- Stream deposit
- Director
- Kazam
- Afternoon socials
- Miss Hayworth
- Crystal gazers
- Sudden movement
- Size (obsession)
- Heads
- Needle
- Arboreal carnivores
- Campus
- mt. exp.
- Slavic tongue
- Tramples on
- Cough mixtures
- George M.
- Peculiar forte
- Shaming
- Medal or circus
- Orient
- Episcopal
- Exchange premium
- Shamed
- Stadium cheer

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FRIED CARRITICADIE  
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TARBOO IRENT MAT  
DEARWEMEN OIRNE  
UNIAI EMBIE ARNIE  
ALIAS BIASRIA ARNIA  
DIYE ARAS DICTIE  
DEARWEMEN OIRNE  
ARVIA DUNA  
OIRNE ARAS DICTIE  
ARVIA DUNA  
ARVIA DUNA  
LIMIE BIEIT RIARIE

## Peanuts

I'M TALKING TO THIS GIRL, SEE, IT'S DURING LUNCH PERIOD...

I'M TALKING AND I'M TALKING WHEN ALL OF A SUDDEN SHE SAYS, "WHO ARE YOU?"

WHO AM I?! I'VE BEEN SITTING IN FRONT OF HER FOR THE WHOLE YEAR! HOW CAN SHE NOT KNOW WHO I AM?!!

MAYBE SHE KNOWS, BUT DOESN'T CARE.

WHO ARE YOU?!

## Mutt'n'Jeff

WALTER, WHAT IS THAT NEW TELLER DOING?

HE'S PLACING BETS OVER THE TELEPHONE.

AND HE'S USING THE BANK'S MONEY TO DO IT!

WELL, GOOD HEAVENS, MAN, WHY DON'T YOU FIRE HIM?

WE WOULD BUT HE KEEPS WINNING.

PUT \$500 ON LADY JANE IN THE SIXTH

## Andy Capp

I GOT OFF WORK EARLY, PET. I'LL GIVE ME MORE TIME TO GET READY.

WHAT FOR?

OH, THAT'S SORRY I FORGOT TO MENTION THIS MORNING - I'M IN THE PARTS TEAM, PET. ONE OF THE LADS HAS GOT THE FLU.

YOU KNOW I DON'T LIKE LETTING PEOPLE DOWN.

HE COULDN'T POOLED ME!

## THE BETTER HALF By Harris

"Usually you complain that my spaghetti is too soggy!"

## JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

VEEKO

YAWLB

TELTEK

ENICKS

Answer: A "VEEK" "YAWLB" "TELTEK" "ENICKS"

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer: What it sometimes takes to land a spouse - A LITTLE "WILE"



# Philippine troops hunt rebel soldiers on eve of plebiscite

**MANILA (R) — Philippine Troops hunted 200 rebel soldiers in hilly terrain north of Manila Sunday as the military was placed on red alert to prevent unrest ahead of a crucial plebiscite Monday on a new constitution.**

Military sources told Reuters the rebels, who had planned to join last Tuesday's failed coup, escaped under cover of darkness Saturday after a shoot-out with government troops.

The sources said the rebel group fled into the rocky Sierra Madre range after leaving behind a large cache of sophisticated weapons at a farmhouse owned by Gregoria Araneta III, a son-in-law of exiled President Ferdinand Marcos.

Five rebels were captured, but helicopter gunships tracking the rest failed to find them by nightfall, the sources said.

Military sources said the nationwide alert and surveillance of officers considered to be pro-Marcos were ordered to head off any repetition of last week's revolt by some 400 soldiers.

The Manila Bulletin quoted police intelligence sources as saying patrols were stepped up after reports that Marcos supporters would try to disrupt Monday's poll by snatching ballot boxes and intimidating voters and watchdog organisations.

Military sources said the Sierra

forces would be cleansed of "undesirable and misnamed elements."

The former housewife who has pursued a policy of national reconciliation said in a dramatic get-tough speech: "I don't want to kill, but neither do I want to be killed."

She promised about 200,000 cheering supporters the new constitution would help the crisis-racked Philippines emerge "as one of the world's greatest countries."

Her spokesman Teodoro Benigno said an opinion poll conducted on Jan. 23 and 29 showed 71 per cent of those quizzed would vote for the constitution, against 14 per cent who would vote against and 15 per cent undecided.

But Mrs. Aquino for Juan Ponce Enrile, the rebellious defence minister sacked last November, Saturday predicted a 60-40 verdict against the constitution.

He told reporters the government was unstable and lacked vision and capacity and that Mrs. Aquino would have to step down and call p. sidential elections if the charter was defeated.

"In this case we would only have 100 days of uncertainty instead of the six years of anguish and anxiety under the present leadership," he said.

Military sources said the army had identified seven areas, including Manila, Marcos strongholds in northern Luzon and parts of Mindanao Island, as possible "trouble spots."

Election commission Chairman Ramon Felipe predicted that 80 per cent of the country's 25 million voters will have cast ballots by the time the polls close at 3 p.m. (0700 GMT).

Final results are not expected for days. The private National Movement for Free Elections (NAMFREL) said results for the Manila area should be available around midnight (1600 GMT).

Monday's plebiscite marks the first time the 54-year-old president has turned to the voters for an endorsement of her leadership since last year's "people power" revolution against Marcos.

Government officials have said they would be "comfortable" with a margin as low as 60 per cent. Some sources, speaking on condition they not be named, said they expected an even stronger pro-constitution vote in the wake of Tuesday's coup attempt by Marcos loyalists.

Mrs. Aquino supporters believe an overwhelming "Yes" vote will dispel charges by Marcos loyalists and other right-wing opponents that she lacks an electoral mandate to govern.

## 17 die, 13 hurt in Taiwan hotel fire

**TAIPEI (R) — Seventeen people died and 13 were injured when fire swept through a hotel in the southern Taiwan city of Kaohsiung, police said.**

They said all the dead were trapped by flames on the top two floors of the four-storey hotel in the centre of Kaohsiung, Taiwan's main port, which is packed with visitors during the Chinese Lunar New Year holiday.

About 70 people, all of them Taiwanese, were in the hotel when the fire broke out shortly before 1 a.m.

Police said it took just half an hour for flames to destroy the flimsy wooden interior of the hotel, popular with low-budget tourists and travelling salesmen as well as prostitutes and their clients.

They said an investigation had been launched to determine the cause of the fire.

Fire officials told reporters in Kaohsiung that seven of the injured were critically ill in hospital and there was little hope they would survive.

Many of the dead were suffocated as they tried vainly to escape from locked fire doors when smoke started billowing through the warren of small cubicles in the hotel. Fire escapes were blocked by rubbish, the officials said.

Guests on the hotel's second floor leapt from windows onto the roofs of cars parked outside and several were slightly injured.

## 1,000 people leave homes after U.S. train derails

**CORINTH, Mississippi (AP) — A freight train derailed and caught fire Saturday, igniting two cars, including a tanker carrying a toxic flammable chemical, and forcing the evacuation of up to 1,000 people, officials said.**

There were no injuries from the derailment, which occurred at about 8:30 a.m. (1330 GMT) when the Norfolk Southern car went off the track and plunged down a 4.5 metre embankment, said fire Chief James Young.

Eight cars were derailed, Bob Rogers, emergency response coordinator for the state Bureau of Pollution Control, said at a news conference. Earlier, Mr. Rogers said time had derailed.

Authorities ordered residents within a half-mile of the derailment in a rural area west of town to leave their homes because of possibly toxic smoke and the danger of explosion, Young said. The order was extended overnight.

Several roads were closed and airplanes below 7,000 feet (2,135 metres) in a 3.2 kilometre radius from the site were restricted, said Leon Shafer, operations manager for the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency.

Officials were unsure how many people lived in the area where evacuations were ordered, but Alcorn County Sheriff Bill Gant estimated that 1,000 people both there and further from the accident left their homes.

The fire engulfed one car containing 2,000 gallons of the chemical toluene and a hopper car containing polyethylene pellets, said Mr. Rogers. Earlier, officials erroneously believed a car containing acetic acid was burning, said Mr. Rogers.

## IRA, Libya allegedly plotted to free prisoners

**LONDON (AP) — Libyan embassy officials in Rome held a series of meetings last year with the Irish Republican Army (IRA) to devise a plot to free Irish and Libyan gunmen imprisoned in Britain, the Sunday Times alleged.**

The joint operation, to be financed by Libya and organised by the outlawed guerrilla group, was abandoned a month ago, apparently unhinged by British security precautions, the weekly newspaper said.

The Home Office, which is responsible for British police, declined to comment. "We do not discuss security matters," said a spokesman, who in line with British practice refused to be named.

The newspaper quoted unidentified security sources as saying that representatives from the Libyan People's Bureau, or embassy, in Rome allegedly met IRA men in Amsterdam and Paris last summer and autumn to discuss freeing several IRA and Libyan inmates serving lengthy prison terms in Britain.

The newspaper said the meetings were detected and monitored by French and Dutch security authorities, who kept British authorities informed.

It said the IRA's ruling Army Council apparently nominated three men it wanted freed, including Patrick McGee, who was given eight life sentences last June for bombings. They included blowing up Brighton's

Grand Hotel in 1984 in an unsuccessful attempt to assassinate Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher. Five people were killed and 31 others injured in that attack.

The paper said Col. Muammar Qadhafi wants to free at least nine Libyans sent to top-security prisons for a variety of serious crimes. Some were members of alleged "hit-squads" sent to kill Libyan exiles, it said.

The IRA, whose aims Col. Qadhafi has publicly supported, is fighting to drive the British out of Northern Ireland and unite the Protestant-dominated province with the Catholic Irish Republic.

IRA leader's wife killed

Meanwhile in Dundalk, Ireland two gunmen shot and killed the wife of former Irish guerrilla leader Dominic McGlinchey at her Dundalk home Saturday night, police said.

Police said two men burst through the back door of Mary McGlinchey's home, ran upstairs and shot her in the head as she was bathing her two children, ages 9 and 11. Neighbours, alerted by gunfire and screaming, found her slumped over the bath.

McGlinchey, 32, former chief of the Irish National Liberation Army (INLA), a leftist offshoot of the Irish Republican Army, was convicted last March of shooting at police and having a gun with intent to endanger life.

Mia Farrow and Michael Caine star in the film Hannah and Her Sisters, directed by Woody Allen, which Saturday won a Golden Globe as the best comedy or musical of 1986.

omens of the Oscars and partly because both movie and television awards are given.

However, parallels to the Academy Awards are difficult since the Golden Globes for films and star performances are given in two categories, dramatic and comedy-musical.

A legion of fans lined up outside the hotel to watch the arrival of their idols.

Miss De Havilland turned heads when she stepped from her limousine in a flowing purple gown with her daughter, Gisele Galante, in black velvet with a plunging neckline.

William Shatner and Cheryl Ladd hosted the ceremonies.

Foreign press members have tightened the voting regulations since the Golden Globes fell into disrepute on charges of rigged voting. About 80 members of the association are eligible to cast ballots.

In addition to the movie awards, Golden Globes are presented in 11 television categories.

## CIA said to have shipped arms to UNITA via Zaire

**NEW YORK (R) — The U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), in a highly secret operation, used an abandoned air base in southern Zaire to airlift arms to guerrillas in Angola, the New York Times reported Sunday.**

The Times quoted diplomatic and business sources in Zaire as saying that three times last year, C-130 and Boeing 707 cargo jets with the markings "Santa Lucia Airways" arrived at the base in Kamina with arms shipments.

The CIA said it would not confirm or deny any reports of covert activities.

One diplomat told the newspaper the operation was directed by a black American known as "Colonel."

Zaire and Angola signed a mutual non-aggression pact in 1985, and Zairean President Mobutu Sese Seko has repeatedly denied allegations that U.S. aid to Angolan rebels led by Jonas Savimbi passes through Zaire.

Savimbi's National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA), which the paper said received supplies mainly from South Africa, is fighting to overthrow Angola's Marxist government.

U.S. aid to UNITA — \$15 million last year — began in 1985, but U.S. officials have refused to reveal the supply route. Transfer through South Africa would violate a U.S. embargo on shipping arms there.

But the Times said that according to Western diplomats, aid workers and businessmen in Zaire, most of the aid has been funnelled through Kamina.

It quoted these sources as saying cargo planes of Santa Lucia Airways made arms deliveries three times last year — between March 20 and April 20, between May 15 and May 30 and one night in mid-October.

Most of the landings were at night, but in May they also took place during the day, the paper said.

It said the arms were flown from Kamina to Savimbi's bush headquarters in south eastern Angola.

Aid workers along the probable flight path reported hearing cargo planes passing overhead at night, it said.

The Times said Belgium built the Kamina Air Base in the 1950s when it administered Zaire, then called the Belgian Congo. It said the base, once the largest between the Sahara and South Africa, has fallen into ruin, but the two runways, are still in good repair.

The U.S. State Department has urged that \$20 million be spent to rebuild the base, it said.

Despite American interest in Kamina, the airlift appears to have been conducted by the CIA without help from U.S. military, diplomatic or aid personnel, it said.

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